Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

As a supporter of Defenders of Wildlife and the Salton Sea -- one of North America's largest stopovers for migratory birds -- I am writing to offer my comments of the California Department of Water Resources Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report on the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program (PEIR).

I'm sure you already know the statistics. The bottom line is, we are at a critical point in the conservation of natural areas in our country. Wildlife depend on these natural areas. We cannot keep reducing and losing the water, forest, and land that sustain wildlife. It has to stop now. You have the power to do this. **BShulman-1**

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Beth Shulman
1011 Lawrence Rd
Hillsborough, NC 27278-6864

Beth Shulman (BSchulman)

BShulman-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

My wife and I visited the Salton Sea many times when we lived in California. This is a unique and critical location to thousands of birds and should be managed with their well being in mind.

Please save the Salton Sea and protect the wildlife that rely on it for their very lives.

Sincerely,

Barry and Sandy Stevenson
10964 Stratton Rd
Hamersville, OH 45130-9752

BStevenson-1

Barry and Sandy Stevenson (BStevenson)

BStevenson-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

Please come up with a plan to save the Salton Sea. This world is destroying so many things that animals and humans depend on for survival. Again please save the Salton Sea for the wildlife.

BStreiff

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Beth Streiff
New Floyd Rd
Rome, NY 13440

Beth Streiff (BStreiff)

BStreiff-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

SHIELDS ENTOMOLOGICAL SERVICE

420 WEST MAIN STREET
BRAWLEY, CA 92227-2254
(760) 344-0706

NOV 2 0 2006

CLYDE E. SHIELDS

JON SHIELDS

November 15, 2006

Secretary Mike Chrisman

Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Secretary Chrisman,

This letter is written as an opinion from me to add to your list of objections for the juvination or vitalization of the Salton Sea.

I have been a resident of this area for more than 50 years; I returned to Imperial County in 1956, after graduating from the University of Arizona with a B.S. in Agriculture and serving two years in the United States Air Force in Japan. My roots go back to the early 1930's when my grandfather settled in the Westmorland area.

On my arrival in 1956 I began work as an Entomologist, for Chevron Chemical and subsequently worked for Stoker Company until I started my own consulting business, Clyde Shields Entomological Service in 1968. I continue in this business today, in which I sell my service to the farmer, to watch their crops for pests (insects, mildew, weeds etc), make reports to them and recommend treatment for the crop as needed and arrange for the treatment to be purchased and applied; I continue to work in this field today. I have also owned an irrigation scheduling business and a world class soils laboratory where we were instrumental in changing the classification of soils here in the Imperial Valley. My partner, Dr. Malek Kaddah, formerly with the U.S.D.A., and now retired, allowed farmers to successfully rejuvenate the soil on many ranches so that they are now top class ranches that grow any crop. With this background, I feel qualified to make the following comments regarding the Salton Sea.

First of all, we should not be saying "restore the Salton Sea", because it has always been a sink hole for excess drain water from the White River and from the Imperial Valley. During every year, that I have lived here, there as been a problem of some kind with the imbalance of nutrients, be it salt, water temperature or algae. **CShields-1**

My concern, with what is called "Restoring the Salton Sea", is that what ever is done or what ever method is used, will not work the same as when it is applied to any other lake, large or small. The Salton Sea is unique and problems are varied. I think that it is apparent, that there is a great need for a constant flow of fresh water to the Sea.

To accomplish the fresh water addition, as required by the Salton Sea Authority (Authority) North Lake Proposal, I have heard talk about using Colorado River water. Since the Sea formed, the largest contribution to the rising level has been ground water flowing through the Banning Pass from rains and snow melt. Most of this water, I am told, now has been captured and is pumped out for golf courses and housing development in the Indio area; so, probably, they do not want to give up their free water any more than do the farmers and developers in the Imperial Valley. As a result of the shortage of water in Southern California, it seems to me that there is going to be a continuing confrontation between water right owners **CShields-2**

Clyde Shields (CShields)

CShields-1

As stated in Fish and Game Section 2931, "It is the intent of the Legislature that the State of California undertake the restoration of the Salton Sea ecosystem and the permanent protection of the wildlife dependent on that ecosystem." Additionally, Fish and Game Code 2081.7 (e)(1) states that "the Secretary of the Resources Agency, . . . shall undertake a restoration study to determine a preferred alternative for the restoration of the Salton Sea ecosystem and the protection of wildlife dependent on that ecosystem."

The Resources Agency has a statutory mandate to prepare a programmatic environmental document and a restoration study and to determine a preferred alternative for the restoration of the Salton Sea ecosystem and the protection of wildlife dependent on that ecosystem (see Fish and Game Code Section 2081.7). The Salton Sea Restoration Act (Fish and Game Code 2931(c)(1-3)) states that "the preferred alternative shall provide the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives: (1) Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea. (2) Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration projects. (3) Protection of water quality."

CShields-2

This comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

NOV 2 0 2006

and those water districts that continue to increase their need by allowing development greater than their water resources.

My suggestion to you, the Department of Water Resources, State of California, do nothing at this point of time as far as committing the taxpayers to pay a huge amount of money to support the Officers of the Salton Sea Authority and the beneficiaries of what will be stolen water from the golf courses and the farmers (a national resource). It just doesn't seem right to take water and the farmers' livelihood to create new business, when the whole idea may not work.

I favor doing nothing to the Salton Sea at this point; we should concentrate on taking care of what we have.

Thank you, for reading my comments before you make your decision on the Salton Sea.

Sincerely,

Clyde E. Shields
Clyde E Shields
Cc: Department of Water Resources

CShields-3

CShields (cont.)

CShields-3

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

The Preferred Alternative does not seek to take water away from existing water users in the Coachella and Imperial valleys. Rather the Preferred Alternative was formulated to function on the anticipated future inflows to the Salton Sea and assumes that these inflows would continue to come primarily from agricultural and other drainage sources in the Imperial and Coachella valleys.

Jan 8, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

I am a supporter of the environment, I am a supporter of the Salton Sea. I would like you to know this, and I believe protecting this important part of migration patterns is essential to our planet. Please try your best to protect the Salton Sea.
Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Courtney Siperstein-Cook
2919 Avila Bay Pl
Davis, CA 95616-2968

CSipersteni-Cook-1

Courtney Siperstein-Cook (CSiperstein-Cook)

CSiperstein-Cook-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

Please protect what Mother Nature gave us!

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

courtney smith
706 N Bridge St
Carbondale, IL 62901-1314

CSmith-1

Courtney Smith (CSmith)

CSmith-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

From: cswitzer@pacbell.net
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: Re: Comments on Draft PEIR for Salton Sea
Date: Wednesday, January 03, 2007 2:14:49 PM
Attachments:

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke:

I am writing in support of restoring the Salton Sea. The plan you adopt must address both the needs of humans and wildlife in the area.

It's time to clean up our act. Please find the political and financial resources necessary to restore this important body of water.

Thank you,

Cheryl Switzer
1309 12th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94122

CSwitzer-1

Cheryl Switzer (CSwitzer)

CSwitzer-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 5, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

As a supporter of ecological balance throughout the country I believe that the preservation of the Salton Sea ecosystem is imperative. With 90% of wetlands gone in California all actions must be taken to preserve the remaining areas and reestablish any areas that are possible.

Please use all actions to save the Salton Sea from continued habitat loss. Thank you for your efforts.

Donny Shefchik

Sincerely,

Donny Shefchik
PO Box 3452
Vail, CO 81658-3452

DShefchik-1

Donny Shefchik (DShefchik)

DShefchik

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

As a supporter of Defenders of Wildlife and the Salton Sea -- I have a problem with the lack of concern for saving wildlife. The upsetting of the natural balance of things will always have a negative result.

Migratory birds have natural flight patterns and need their stopovers undisturbed by our greed and thoughtlessness. If we continue on the path we are traveling of disturbing nature reserves, massacring wolves, hunting whales and dolpins to near extinction, etc. the world will soon be a barren,lifeless place.

When the day comes that we can't look out our windows and see the beauty that nature provides us....I no longer want to be around. It is critical that we work with government city, state, nation, and world wide to assure that we do all we can to protect all of nature and it's wonderous beauties.

Sincerely,

Denise Spors
605 Richie Rd
Mocksville, NC 27028-4927

DSpors-1

Denise Spors (DSpors)

DSpors-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

Jan 5, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

Our migratory birds really need the Salton Sea as their vital stopover; therefore, it is of the utmost importance to protect North America's most important migratory bird area! **ES-1**

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ellen Stern
246 Argonne Ave
Long Beach, CA 90803-1741

Ellen Stern (ES)

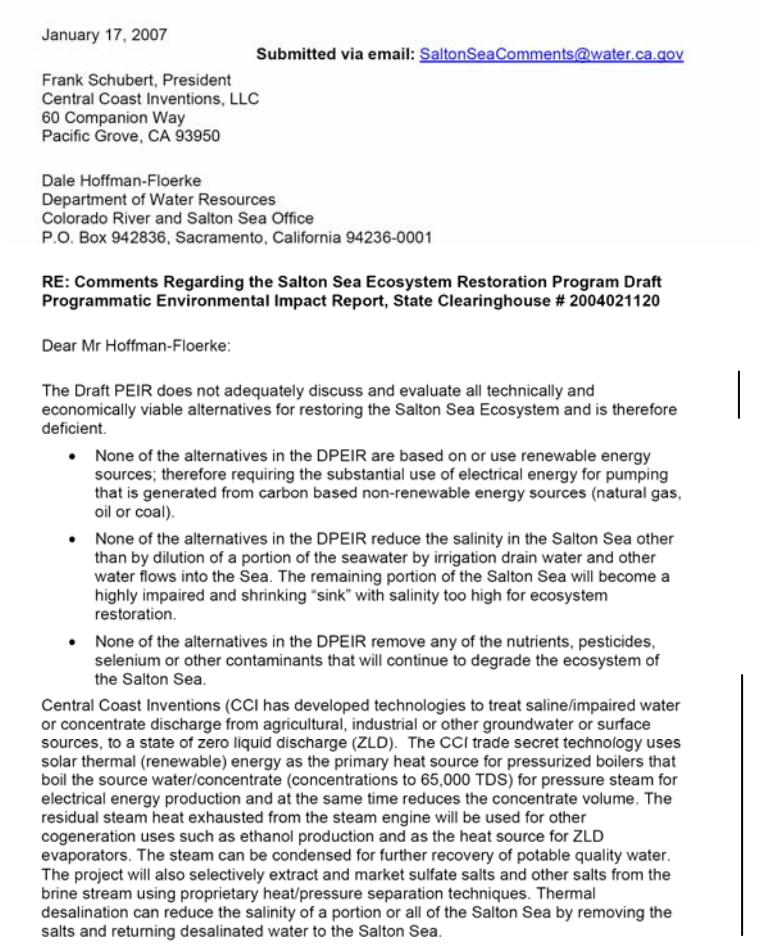
ES-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.



January 17, 2007

Submitted via email: SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov

Frank Schubert, President
Central Coast Inventions, LLC
60 Companion Way
Pacific Grove, CA 93950

Dale Hoffman-Floerke
Department of Water Resources
Colorado River and Salton Sea Office
P.O. Box 942836, Sacramento, California 94236-0001

RE: Comments Regarding the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report, State Clearinghouse # 2004021120

Dear Mr Hoffman-Floerke:

The Draft PEIR does not adequately discuss and evaluate all technically and economically viable alternatives for restoring the Salton Sea Ecosystem and is therefore deficient.

- None of the alternatives in the DPEIR are based on or use renewable energy sources; therefore requiring the substantial use of electrical energy for pumping that is generated from carbon based non-renewable energy sources (natural gas, oil or coal).
- None of the alternatives in the DPEIR reduce the salinity in the Salton Sea other than by dilution of a portion of the seawater by irrigation drain water and other water flows into the Sea. The remaining portion of the Salton Sea will become a highly impaired and shrinking "sink" with salinity too high for ecosystem restoration.
- None of the alternatives in the DPEIR remove any of the nutrients, pesticides, selenium or other contaminants that will continue to degrade the ecosystem of the Salton Sea.

Central Coast Inventions (CCI has developed technologies to treat saline/impaired water or concentrate discharge from agricultural, industrial or other groundwater or surface sources, to a state of zero liquid discharge (ZLD). The CCI trade secret technology uses solar thermal (renewable) energy as the primary heat source for pressurized boilers that boil the source water/concentrate (concentrations to 65,000 TDS) for pressure steam for electrical energy production and at the same time reduces the concentrate volume. The residual steam heat exhausted from the steam engine will be used for other cogeneration uses such as ethanol production and as the heat source for ZLD evaporators. The steam can be condensed for further recovery of potable quality water. The project will also selectively extract and market sulfate salts and other salts from the brine stream using proprietary heat/pressure separation techniques. Thermal desalination can reduce the salinity of a portion or all of the Salton Sea by removing the salts and returning desalinated water to the Salton Sea.

FS-1

FS-2

Frank Schubert (FS)

FS-1

The Resources Agency has a statutory mandate to prepare a programmatic environmental document and a restoration study and to determine a preferred alternative for the restoration of the Salton Sea ecosystem and the protection of wildlife dependent on that ecosystem (see Fish and Game Code Section 2081.7). The Salton Sea Restoration Act (Fish and Game Code 2931(c)(1-3)) states that "the preferred alternative shall provide the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives: (1) Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea. (2) Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration projects. (3) Protection of water quality." The Draft PEIR includes a reasonable range of alternatives that meet the project's legislatively mandated objectives as required by CEQA.

FS-2

A variety of options to remove salts from Salton Sea inflows sources (such as the New, Alamo, and Whitewater rivers and the Imperial and Coachella valley drains) were considered in the State's Draft PEIR (see Chapter 2 of the Draft PEIR). These methods have also been considered in prior Salton Sea studies (see Chapter 4 of the Draft PEIR). However, due to the large amount of water that would need to be treated, large scale salt removal was not considered in detail in the Draft PEIR.

FS (cont.)

FS-2 cont.

CCI's proprietary technology to be used for desalination of Salton Sea water utilizes solar thermal energy as a primary heat source and pressurized boilers that boil the concentrate to produce steam for saline water/concentrate volume reduction, electrical energy, other thermal energy uses and the production of desalinated water.

The propriety technology:

- Concentrating Solar Thermal Arrays (simplified design and tracking system reduces cost)
- ASME standard boilers heated from mixed energy (solar thermal, gas/electricity).
- Steam engines to drive electrical generators. Excess electricity will be provided to the electric grid to offset pumping costs and for other purposes.
- CCI is presently designing an ethanol production system using the steam/heat after it has been used for the power generation. (The residual heat can alternatively be used for other purposes such as preheating the feedwater).
- Concentrate evaporator for further concentration of the brine.
- The steam can be condensed to produce potable quality water.
- The supernatant or residual solids can be separated for beneficial use. The salt can also be used to cover the exposed bottom of the Salton Sea (Playa) in a similar manner as described in Alternative 7 in the DPEIR.
- The technology is capable of removing excess nutrients, pesticides and selenium from the treated water, helping to prevent continued and possibly reversing ecosystem degradation.

The capital cost of the solar thermal process is in line with the cost of the alternatives presented in the DPEIR. The life-cycle cost would be lower due to the electric energy generated and the sale of sulfate and other salts, if desired.

Representatives from Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer's offices have seen the technologies in operation and are interested in the technology being adopted. We urge you to carefully evaluate the above described ZLD solar thermal ecosystem restoration alternative to be considered as an alternative in the DPEIR. As the project for restoring the Salton Sea Ecosystem moves forward, we believe that the ZLD solar thermal technology should be included as part the solution.

You may contact me at 831 224-2513 (email THERUBS@aol.com or PB, my engineering partner, at 619 338-9376 (Parkinsoni@pbworld.com) for further information.

Sincerely,

Frank Schubert, President
Central Coast Inventions, LLC

CC: Jim Jensen, PB
Ian Parkinson, PB

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

If I need to explain to you why it's important that you make an effort to save the Salton Sea and all environmentally sensitive areas, then maybe you should consider looking for other work.

I'm tired of inaction and disgusted with people who can't make the proper decisions. What's needed now are people who understand the necessity for preserving the environment. Cleaning the air, the water and making a world where fauna and man live harmoniously is the challenge today. Everything else is secondary.

Gary Simon
154 Belle Terre Blvd
Covington, LA 70433

Sincerely,

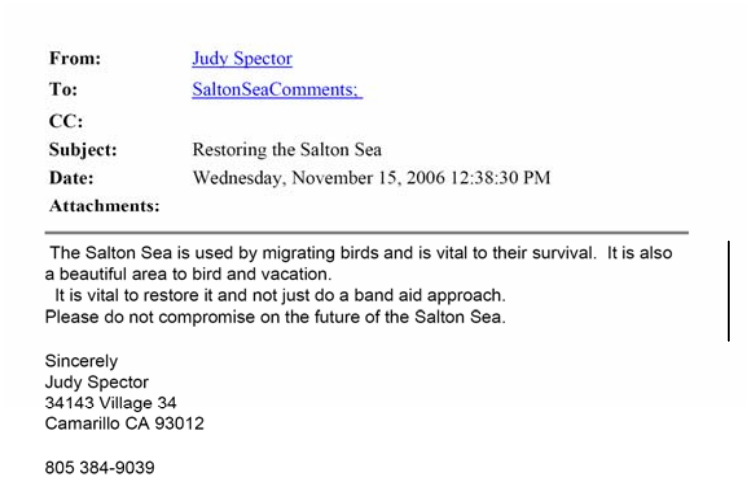
gary simon
154 Belle Terre Blvd
Covington, LA 70433-4757

GS-1

Gary Simon (GS)

GS-1

Your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.



From: Judy Spector
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: Restoring the Salton Sea
Date: Wednesday, November 15, 2006 12:38:30 PM
Attachments:

The Salton Sea is used by migrating birds and is vital to their survival. It is also a beautiful area to bird and vacation.
It is vital to restore it and not just do a band aid approach.
Please do not compromise on the future of the Salton Sea.

Sincerely
Judy Spector
34143 Village 34
Camarillo CA 93012

805 384-9039

JSpector-1

Judy Spector (JSpector)

JSpector-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

From: James
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: salton sea comments
Date: Monday, October 23, 2006 4:22:53 PM
Attachments:

The only plan that make any kind of human sense is the Salton Sea Authority's plan. It is a balanced plan that takes into consideration the habitat and the people. This could be a wonderful place to live, work, and recreate. I recognize that there may be some technical issues that need to be worked out, but from a concept prospective, this is a no brainer. Please for the love of God don't mess this up.

James E. Stovall

Ray Everett Homes
614 W. Manchester Blvd.
Suite 204
Inglewood, CA 91301
(323) 376-0137

JStovall-1

James Stovall (JStovall)

JStovall-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 5, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

Please make decisions to protect the Salton Sea. I'm trying to make a difference; there is a place of honor for those who do the same. It's on the inside.

Sincerely,

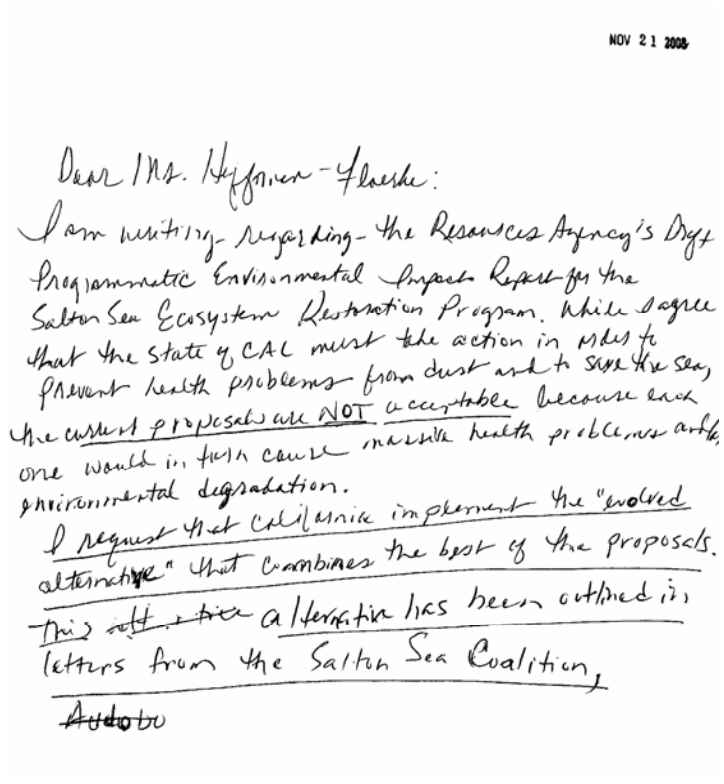
Jason Sullivan
407 Ocean St # 2
South Portland, ME 04106-6611

JSullivan-1

Jason Sullivan (JSullivan)

JSullivan-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.



NOV 21 2008

Dear Mrs. Heffernan-Floerke:

I am writing regarding the Resources Agency's Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report for the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. While I agree that the State of CA must take action in order to prevent health problems from dust and to save the sea, the current proposals are NOT acceptable because each one would in their own cause massive health problems and environmental degradation.

I request that California implement the "evolved alternative" that combines the best of the proposals. This ~~not a~~ alternative has been outlined in letters from the Salton Sea Coalition.

Thank you

KSM-1

Kathleen Smith-Myler (KSM)

KSM-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

KSM (cont.)

pg. 2

NOV 21 2006

KSM-1 cont.

Audubon California and other environmental groups, and I support it as well.

I urge you to do the same.

Thank you.

Sincerely

Kathleen Smith-Myles

From: sea.us@juno.com
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: Comments on Salton Sea Restoration
Date: Tuesday, January 09, 2007 6:46:09 PM
Attachments:

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
CA Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

The Draft PEIR on Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration alternatives needs to be reconsidered. It is imperative that we protect the wildlife habitat at the Salton Sea, which is a critical bird area. Hundreds of bird species rely on the Salton Sea ecosystem especially during migration. Further,the dust pollution caused by a dry seabed has the potential to create huge Public Health problems.

The Salton Sea is valued all across our nation. I live in Maryland but I have visited this extraordinary resource and hope appropriate steps will be taken and, good decisions made, to preserve this treasure. Restoration should provide the maximum feasible wildlife habitat, and, the best air and water quality protection, as is required by law. None of the EIR alternatives, as they now stand, are adequate to provide the maximum protection of wildlife and, inasure good air and water quality.

California needs to do better in creating an alternative that would successfully protect human and wildlife health, better air and water quality and generally inhance the valuable resource of the Salton Sea.
Thank you in advance for rethinking and redesigning the current EIR alternatives.

Sincerely,
Margaret Sebour
5 Wharf Court
Ocean Pines, MD 21811-1829

MSebour-1

Margaret Sebour (MSebour)

MSebour-1

The Salton Sea Restoration Act (Fish and Game Code 2931(c)(1-3)) states that "the preferred alternative shall provide the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives: (1) Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea. (2) Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration projects. (3) Protection of water quality." All of the alternatives meet the legislative objectives to varying degrees.

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

From: Monica Swartz
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: my air quality comment
Date: Tuesday, January 16, 2007 4:47:07 PM
Attachments:

Dear Dale,
I commend the Resources Agency efforts to develop restoration alternatives for the Salton Sea. I have reviewed the PEIR and have the following comment. I would like to see the environmental impacts of nitrogen deposition on sensitive desert upland ecosystems included in the report. Nitrogen deposition increases densities of invasive grasses and increases susceptibility to invasion. Invasive grasses compete with native plants and allow fire to carry across desert landscapes not adapted to fire. Nitrogen emissions from vehicles used during Salton Sea restoration construction as well as operations and maintenance will have impacts to ecosystem integrity and stability in nearby valuable habitat areas such as Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, Joshua Tree National Park, Meccacopia Wilderness, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto National Monument. Habitat alterations that will result from project construction emissions will need to be addressed in project-specific environmental documents, but the regional wind patterns and estimates of nitrogen emissions from the alternatives presented in the PEIR can provide a sufficient basis for a first stab at the issue. Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to continue to help with this process.
--
Dr. Monica Swartz
46805 Cameo Palms
La Quinta, CA 92253
(760) 777-8857

MSwartz-1

Monica Swartz (MSwartz)

MSwartz-1

Nitrogen deposition impacts on desert upland ecosystems were not analyzed in the Draft PEIR, because the information needed to conduct this analysis was not available. Air quality dispersion modeling of estimated NOx emissions and estimation of nitrogen deposition impacts were not conducted as part of the Draft PEIR air quality impact analyses. Dispersion modeling would have been premature, due to the limited available information on the locations and magnitude of future NOx emissions sources, potential mitigation measures, the relative locations of sensitive ecosystems, and potential future air quality conditions at the Salton Sea under the various project alternatives. If feasible, a project level dispersion modeling and nitrogen deposition analysis could be conducted during project-level analysis.

From: Nancy Smith
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: Save Salton Sea
Date: Tuesday, January 09, 2007 4:44:34 PM
Attachments:

Jan 9, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

Please give the Salton priority attention

We can not afford to let this gem of desert vanish altogether from the face of earth. Every living specie is given one chance to exist on earth.

Thank you.

Nancy Smith

Sincerely,

Nancy Smith
2019 21st St
Santa Monica, CA 90404-4809

NS-1

Nancy Smith (NS)

NS-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

Just in my short lifetime, I've witnessed the decline of birds and their habitats. Birds are some of nature's most miraculous creatures. Without a doubt, we must preserve their habitats! These creatures of the air are also of the earth--when we preserve them, we are preserving some of God's most beautiful and necessary creations!

SAVE THE SALTON SEA!

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

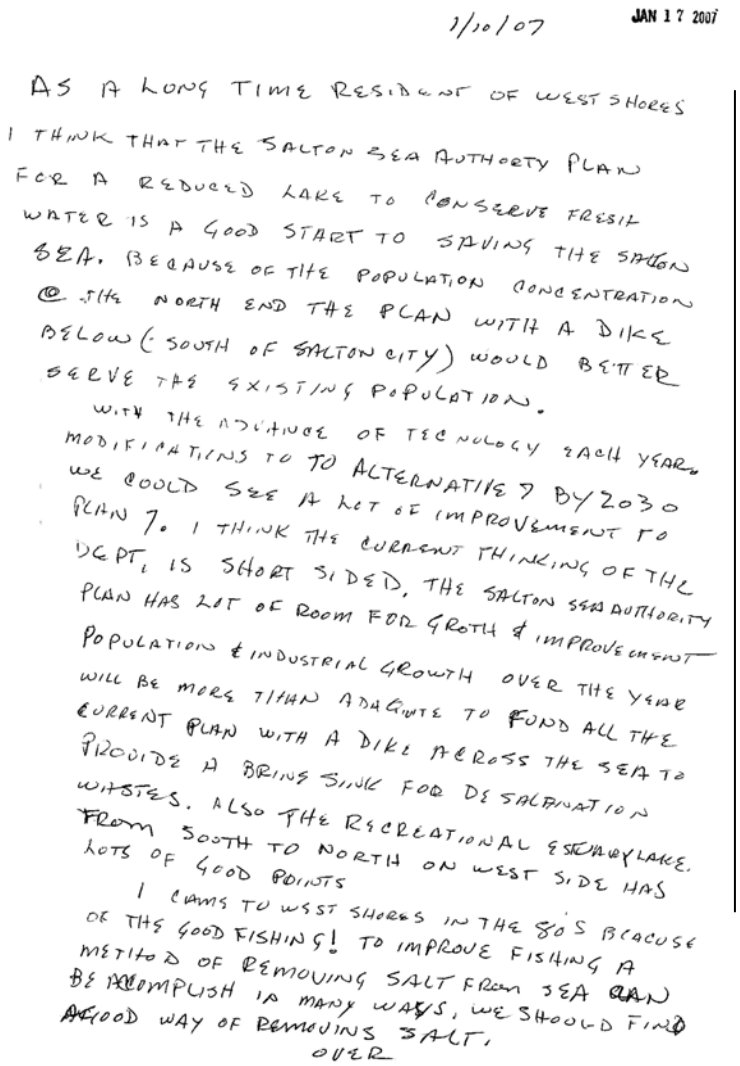
Patti Shanks
113 Willis Ave
Columbia, MO 65201-5838

PShanks-1

Patti Shanks (PS)

PS-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.



1/10/07

JAN 17 2007

AS A LONG TIME RESIDENT OF WEST SHORES I THINK THAT THE SALTON SEA AUTHORTY PLAN FOR A REDUCED LAKE TO CONSERVE FRESH WATER IS A GOOD START TO SAVING THE SALTON SEA. BECAUSE OF THE POPULATION CONCENTRATION @ THE NORTH END THE PLAN WITH A DIKE BELOW (SOUTH OF SALTON CITY) WOULD BETTER SERVE THE EXISTING POPULATION.

WITH THE ADVANCE OF TECNOLOGY EACH YEAR MODIFIMATIONS TO TO ALTERNATIVE 7 BY 2030 WE COULD SEE A LOT OF IMPROVEMENT TO PLAN 7. I THINK THE CURRENT THINKING OF THE DEPT, IS SHORT SIDED, THE SALTON SEA AUTHORITY PLAN HAS LOT OF ROOM FOR GROTH & IMPROVEMENT POPULATION & INDUSTRIAL GROWTH OVER THE YEARS WILL BE MORE THAN ADEQUATE TO FUND ALL THE CURRENT PLAN WITH A DIKE ACROSS THE SEA TO PROVIDE A BRINE SINK FOR DESALINATION WITH TES. ALSO THE RECREATIONAL ESPECIALY LAKE. FROM SOUTH TO NORTH ON WEST SIDE HAS LOTS OF GOOD POINTS

I CAME TO WEST SHORES IN THE 50'S BECAUSE OF THE GOOD FISHING! TO IMPROVE FISHING A METHOD OF REMOVING SALT FROM SEA CAN BE ACCOMPLISH IN MANY WAYS, WE SHOULD FIND A GOOD WAY OF REMOVING SALT,

OVER

RSchilling-1

R. S. Schilling (RSchilling)

RSchilling-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

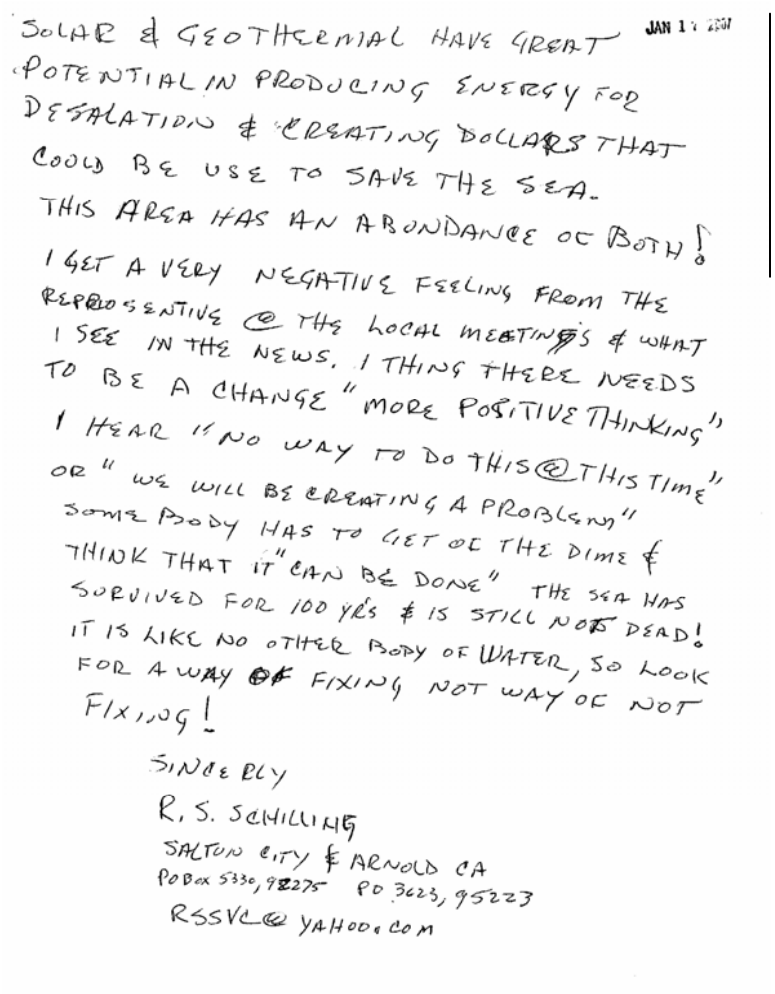
- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

The 45,000-acre Marine Sea included in the Preferred Alternative would be located primarily in the northern portion of the Sea, but would extend down the majority of the eastern and western shorelines. It is intended to support a marine fishery and fish-eating birds (such as pelicans, double-crested cormorants, and black skimmers). The Marine Sea would stabilize at a water surface elevation of -230 feet msl with a salinity between 30,000 mg/L and 40,000 mg/L. The water depth would be less than 10 to 12 meters (39 feet) to reduce hydrogen sulfide generation and potential fish kills due to long term temperature stratification (temperature variations from top to bottom of the sea).

Although not a legislatively mandated objective, the Saline Habitat Complex is expected to allow for passive recreational opportunities, such as bird watching. Additionally, the Marine Sea would provide for water-based recreational opportunities that have historically occurred at the Salton Sea. This would include boating and fishing opportunities and allow for the on-going operation of the majority of the existing harbors at the Salton Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.



SOLAR & GEOTHERMAL HAVE GREAT JAN 1 7 2007
POTENTIAL IN PRODUCING ENERGY FOR
DESALATION & CREATING DOLLARS THAT
COULD BE USE TO SAVE THE SEA.
THIS AREA HAS AN ABONDANCE OF BOTH!
I GET A VERY NEGATIVE FEELING FROM THE
REPRESENTIVE @ THE LOCAL MEETINGS & WHAT
I SEE IN THE NEWS. I THING THERE NEEDS
TO BE A CHANGE "MORE POSITIVE THINKING",
I HEAR "NO WAY TO DO THIS @ THIS TIME"
OR "WE WILL BE CREATING A PROBLEM"
SOME BODY HAS TO GET OF THE DIME &
THINK THAT IT "CAN BE DONE" THE SEA HAS
SURVIVED FOR 100 YR'S & IS STILL NOT DEAD!
IT IS LIKE NO OTHER BODY OF WATER, SO LOOK
FOR A WAY OF FIXING NOT WAY OF NOT
FIXING!

SINCERLY
R. S. SCHILLING
SALTON CITY & ARNOLD CA
POBox 5330, 92275 PO 3623, 95223
RSSVC@YAHOO.COM

RSchilling-2

RSchilling (cont.)

RSchilling-2

Existing energy resources, including geothermal are discussed in Chapter 21, Power Production and Energy Resources, of the Draft PEIR. Such resources could be used to help implement the Preferred Alternative. There are currently no major solar power facilities in the study area. However, at the programmatic level, all the alternatives are developed with enough flexibility to not preclude investments in solar or other resources that could be used to help restore the Sea.

The concept of desalinization to control salinity has not been implemented on the large scale required at the Salton Sea. However, this concept could be considered on a smaller scale and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and others are currently conducting a pilot project related to desalination of Salton Sea water.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

I am professional photographer/videographer working in educational media production and work closely with members of our horticulture department to protect local flora and fauna. One of my inspirations for this career included living in Southern California and falling in love with the natural beauty that defines the area. The thought of that disappearing with the Salton Sea is distressing for me, even here in Iowa. I hope you will do all you can to protect and strengthen one of your great resources. I hope to make it back to Southern California in the near future and experience again the sweeping vistas full of migratory birds. You are a precious part of America and I hope you have the foresight to act now in support of one of our most amazing national treasures and save the Salton Sea and it's teeming wildlife populations from destruction. Thanks for whatever you can do...for all of us Americans who love your beautiful state.

Sincerely,

Rick Severin
3288 69th St
Atkins, IA 52206-9610

RSeverin-1

Rick Severin (RSeverin)

RSeverin-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

DEC 18 2006

December 14, 2006

Dale Hoffnan-Floerke
Department of WATER Resources
Sacramento, CA

Dear MS. Hoffman-Floerke:

I had the pleasure of attending the first of your Public Workshops at the La Quinta City Hall Nov. 14, 2006 where you presented some of the details of your Draft Programatic Environmental Impact Report on the restoration of the Salton Sea.

You are to be commended for the quality and thoroughness of your most extensive report. I speak with some familiarity with the amount and nature of the work required having been personnally involved in the preparation of similar reports.

I was quite disappointed, however, to learn that none of the proposals evaluated represented restoration of the entire Salton Sea. They covered restoration of part of the Sea at the expense of the rest of it. You may recall I proposed at the meeting a total restoration by means of waterways connecting the Sea to the Gulf of California.

I am still interested in pursuing such a solution to the problems of the Salton Sea and to that end i have taken the liberty of writing to some of the members of rhe state legislature urging them to require that the Sea be restored in its entirety.

I know that this would mean that you would have " to go back to the drawing board" . However, I feel that the importance of this project is such that a hasty decision made to meet an arbitrary deadline might be one to be regretted. It is more important to make the right deoision. Let's take the time to do that.

I note, also, the lack of an Economic Impact Report. Surely there will be people displaced from their homes and businesses during construction and possibly also aftercompletion. Shouldn't we be concerned about people as well as fish?

The remarks I have made are the remarks of a concerned citizen. I have no affiliation of any kind with any organization with an interest inthis project, nor do I have a financial interest in any decision that is made. I speak for no one but myself.

Richard B. Speed
81914 Paseo Real,
Indio CA 92201
760-347-0139

RB Speed

RSpeed-1

RSpeed-2

Richard Speed (RSpeed)

RSpeed-1

Alternatives that maintain the whole Salton Sea, including the importation of water from the Gulf of California were described in Chapter 2 of the Draft PEIR. As discussed in Chapter 2, this alternative was considered but was not carried forward in the Draft. The importation of water from the Gulf of California was not carried forward because the alternative does not meet the CEQA requirement for feasibility as the State would not legally be able to control or have access to the portion of the project that would be located in the Republic of Mexico.

RSpeed-2

The preparation of an economic impact report is not a requirement of CEQA, the Salton Sea Restoration Act, or related legislation. No displacement of homes or business is anticipated.

DEC 1 8 2006

F O R M A L C O M M E N T

A PROPOSAL FOR THE RESTORATION OF THE ENTIRE SALTON SEA

To bring about the restoration of the entire Salton Sea it is proposed that two waterways be constructed to connect the Salton Sea with the Gulf of California. One waterway would deliver water from the Sea to the Gulf, the other would deliver water from the Gulf to the Sea. A major obstacle confronting this approach to the restoration is the 230 foot difference in elevation. It would be necessary to pump the Salton Sea water up to sea level so a pumping facility of appropriate capacity would need to be designed and constructed. The water incoming from the Gulf would experience a 230 foot fall and in so doing the energy of that fall could be harnessed to generate some of the energy required to operate the discharge pumps. Sizes of all the component parts would have to be determined so as to achieve total exchange in a reasonable period of time. The discharge waterway should connect to the Sea at its southern extremity and the incoming waterway close to the northern end of the Sea to bring about complete exchange in the shortest period of time.The sizes chosen would dictate what that period would be.

At the conclusion of that period the water in the Salton Sea would be exactly the same as the water in the Gulf of California.It would also be at the same level as it is currently today, i.e. 230 feet below sea level. There would be no need to block off any part of the Sea to bring this about. The resulting Sea would be fully restored with aquatic and bird life as it is today in the northern part of the Gulf.

Some objection may be raised that the nutrient-rich water of the Sea would degrade the Gulf water. However, the total volume of water in the Sea amounts to a " drop in the bucket " compared to th amount of water in the Gulf and tidal action in the Gulf would distribute the incoming Salton Sea water so effectively that virtually no difference would be detectable.

RSpeed-3

RSpeed (cont.)

RSpeed-3

See response to comment RSpeed-1.

DEC 1 0 2008

Land acquisition costs could be a significant portion of the overall cost of this proposal. Rights of way may have to be purchased and there would be an economic impact on landowners who would be displaced by the waterways, To the largesr extent possible the paths to be followed by these waterways should be over government owned land (Federal,State, County,and Municipal) It is my opinion that these government lands should be donated to the project at no cost since the greater good is being served. Of course, it would be necessary to prepare an estimate of cost, but this should await further engineering definition of the details.

To repeat:the completion of the project in this way would

1)Restore the entire Sea at its existing level

2) Eliminate any concern about air quality (a major problem of the eight alternatives dis-cussedin the EIR

3) Restore marine and bird life in and around the Sea to historic levels with no other work required (another major problem of the eight alternatives)

4) Totally eliminate the need for the fresh water all-ocation arrangements of the QSA

5) Establish once again a prime recreational playground with greatly enhanced property values along the shore and in the general area, with a variety of residential commercial investment opportunities with attendant increased property revenues.

The paths to be followed by the waterways in the United States would need to be thoroughly researched and evaluated but, in my opinion, should be laid out so that the incoming channel connects to Mexico's Laguna Salada just south of the border. This large area is a dry sea bed at approximately 100 feet below sea level just west and south of Mexicali. It stretches south to within about 25 miles of the Gulf. This area could easily be flooded with Gulf water to any level desired by means of the continuance of the above described waterways creating thereby a "sea" area in Mexico similar to the Salton Sea. This "sea" could then be similarly developed

RSpeed-3 cont.

DEC 1 8 2006

into a highly desirable water playground and greatly enhance the value of its surroundings.

To recap, then, the incoming water would run from the Gulf of California through a 25 mile waterway to the flooded Laguna Salada, through this newly created lake to another waterway which would then end at the upper part of the Salton Sea falling 230 feet in the trip. The outgoing water would travel from the southern end of the Salton Sea all the way to the Gulf of California.

I would propose that this project be a two-nation enterprise with considerable value to both. In particular, the value to Mexico would revolve around its water playground possibilities and resulting income oppoptunities.

I would think that

1) All work in Mexico should be performed by Mexicans thereby helping to relieve some of that countries unemployment problems
2) Allof the land in Mexico required by the project should be contributed by Mexico at no cost. Most of the land is not currently in use for any purpose.
3) The cost of all work to be accomplished in Mexico should be borne by Mexico.
4) The junction with the Gulf of California may involve working around some ecologically sensitive areas. Mexico should do whatever may be required.
5) Mexico could consider allowing the lake created by flooding the Laguna Salada to become an adjunct of the Gulf and permit its use by pleasure watercraft.

I recognize that for this project to be successful the cooperation of Mexico is required. Some kind of contractual arrangementswould need to be negotiated and this might have to be handled by the United States State department with their Inter-American Affairs organization.

Mexico has just elected a new president. Perhaps his new administration could be helpful in getting an agreement worked out.There are many benefits to Mexico from this enterprise. Those benefits should be stressed in opening the discussion.That, however,

RSpeed-3 cont.

RSpeed (cont.)

RSpeed (cont.)

DEC 1 8 2006

is for the State Department to decide. If Mexico can be convinced to do its part California has much to gain by pursuing this proposal. The restoration of the entire Sea would be much more beneficial than restoration of only a part of it.

RSpeed-3 cont.

A PROPOSAL BY

RICHARD B. SPEED
81914 PASEO REAL
INDIO, CA 92201
760-347-0139

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

It's way past time we all recognize we can either destroy or start saving our wildlife, so please do what you can for the good of mankind, womankind and animalkind.

Sincerely,

sybil sage
45 Christopher St
New York, NY 10014-3533

SSage-1

Sybil Sage (SSage)

SSage-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

From: Scott Schedell
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: Salton Sea Remediation
Date: Monday, January 15, 2007 9:27:04 AM
Attachments:

The Coachella Valley, in which the Salton Sea is located, is subject to regional flooding. I suggest tying flood control together with the remediation of the Salton Sea. Flood waters from the canyons on the west side of the Coachella Valley could controlled and used to replenish the sea. Federal funds for flood control could be utilized.

SSchedell-1

Scott Schedell (SSchedell)

SSChedell-1

The Resources Agency has a statutory mandate to prepare a programmatic environmental document and a restoration study and to determine a preferred alternative for the restoration of the Salton Sea ecosystem and the protection of wildlife dependent on that ecosystem (see Fish and Game Code Section 2081.7). The Salton Sea Restoration Act (Fish and Game Code 2931(c)(1-3)) states that "the preferred alternative shall provide the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives: (1) Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea. (2) Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration projects. (3) Protection of water quality." Flood control in the Coachella Valley is outside of the scope of the Draft PEIR.

Dale Hoffman-Floerke, Salton Sea PEIR Comments
CA Department of Water Resources
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

I am writing to ask you to support the proposal backed by the National Resources Defense Council for the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program.

Sincerely,

Stephen Station
15553 Adams St., Apt. 202
510 S. 39th Street #36
Omaha, NE 68137-5207

SStation-1

Stephen Station (SStation)

SStation-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

From: Brian Tait-Russell
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: SAVING SALTON SEA
Date: Tuesday, January 09, 2007 6:11:20 PM
Attachments:

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

SAVING SALTON SEA

I have been working at the Salton Sea as a private venture to come up with an idea to clean the Salton Sea naturally. Three years ago I got excited and came up with an idea that could be replicated hundreds of times at the Salton Sea to clean up to 10 million gallons of water a day times one hundred. I made a proposal not only to Sacramento, but also to the Salton Sea Authority and although the concept was great it was indicated to me there was no budget out there that could pay for this indefinitely. Which at that time I agreed. So I went back to the drawing board and came up with not only cleaning the waters of the Salton Sea and returning them back, but I actually finished up with a product I could sell in the form of Bio Diesel. A clean, green energy, and now I have a product I can sell for my troubles and I instantly came up with a concept of giving an open license to as many people around the complete Sea that had the same interest in cleaning the Sea and finish up with this new clean, renewable energy. I myself would erect four greenhouses only 25' x 55' each. Raising my product and finishing up with 200,000 gallons of clean bio diesel a day. Now, if you can image this being replicated around the Sea at least 100 times look how much product that would produce and how much water can be constantly cleaned and managed.

This concept will not only help manage the Sea it will also create jobs and great commerce, but this is where the fun begins. I have offered this product to the Imperial Irrigation District in the south end of the Sea and Edison who is burning trash in the north end of the Sea in Mecca, to be burnt as pure clean, green, renewable energy and have been turned down. This Sea is only like this now because it has had lack of management and serious action applied to it for over 35 years. So what can I say, there must be a reason behind this. I believe the

BTR-1

Brian Tait-Russell (BTR)

BTR-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Although it does not include algae farming, such farming could be considered during future project-level analysis if it is related to restoration actions at the Salton Sea. Algae production at the Salton Sea could also be considered as a separate project by other individuals, corporations, or agencies.

BTR (cont.)

Sea is going to go along with all the agriculture in the Imperial Valley making a way for a greater tax base in housing, casinos, and golf courses etc., and there will be no need to throw millions or even billions of dollars at the Sea. I welcome all comments to TaitRussellResources@msn.com .

Thank you,
Brian J. Tait-Russell

Jan 7, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

I am writing to strongly urge you to restore the Salton Sea. As I am sure you know the Salton Sea is one of the most important stops for migratory birds, including some endangered species. They depend on the Salton Sea for survival. It is also a very important resource for the surrounding communities. I implore the California Department of Water resources to come up with a plan to provide adequate protection for the Salton Sea and the birds and people who depend on it.

Sincerely,

Carrie Thistle
13 Casa Dr
Mansfield, MA 02048-1134

CThistle-1

Carrie Thistle (CThistle)

CThistle-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

sirs, i am not going to be verbose and at the age of 80 years, im am distressed by the loss os habitat and species. we are all diminished when we willfully detroy something. SAVE THE SALTON SEA!

Sincerely,

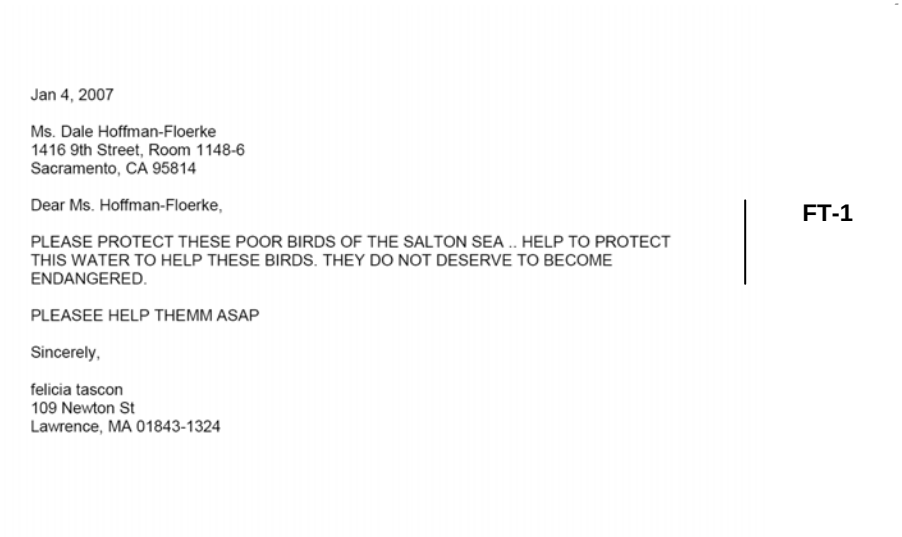
Carmela Trinkaus
4 Dahlia Dr
Farmington, CT 06032-2054

CTrinkaus-1

Carmela Trinkaus (CTrinkaus)

CTrinkaus-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.



Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

PLEASE PROTECT THESE POOR BIRDS OF THE SALTON SEA .. HELP TO PROTECT THIS WATER TO HELP THESE BIRDS. THEY DO NOT DESERVE TO BECOME ENDANGERED.

PLEASEE HELP THEMM ASAP

Sincerely,

felicia tascon
109 Newton St
Lawrence, MA 01843-1324

FT-1

Felicia Tascon (FT)

FT-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

Please do not divert water from this sanctuary and stopping place for birds!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Taylor
2770 Pacific Ave
Arcata, CA 95521-7915

JTaylor-1

Jennifer Taylor (JTaylor)

JTaylor-1

The Salton Sea Restoration Act (Fish and Game Code 2931(c)(1-3)) states that "the preferred alternative shall provide the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives: (1) Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea. (2) Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration projects. (3) Protection of water quality." As described in Chapter 1 of the Draft PEIR, the Salton Sea Restoration Act and related legislation facilities implementation of the Quantification Settlement Agreement and the Imperial Irrigation District Water Conservation and Transfer Project. Changes to the Quantification Settlement Agreement and the Imperial Irrigation District Water Conservation and Transfer Project are outside of the scope of the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program.

From: Elena Thompson
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: Salton Sea Comments
Date: Thursday, December 28, 2006 2:21:23 PM
Attachments:

Hello and thank you for the opportunity to comment. My comments are as follows:

1) We must do something to a) save this sea and b) reduce/eliminate any future air pollution disaster resulting from NOT saving the sea/taking any action at all.

2) I am supportive of what the experts decide a) makes the most sense given the situation; b) is cost feasible and c) can be initiated within the next 3-5 years at the most so we can save the sea.

3) I like the idea of some (limited) development at/around the north part of the sea that includes bike paths and walking trails so the sea can be biked/ hiked around and become a major destination for enjoying the outdoors. Further, if it is possible to enter the sea (e.g. clean water!?), that would also certainly be nice. What we need to avoid is fixing the sea and turning it in to a major Indian gaming destination with destructive jet ski's, vehicle traffic and the likes. This gorgeous area needs to be cherished by all who visit, once the sea is repaired.

4) I like the idea of dividing the sea into halves (or parts). I know too little to decide and fully evaluate each of the various alternatives but will keep a close eye on what you decide.

Thank you for your work.

John and Elena Thompson
PO Box 232073, Encinitas, CA. 92024

JThompson-1

John and Elena Thompson (JThompson)

JThompson-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

Although not a legislatively mandated objective, the Saline Habitat Complex is expected to allow for passive recreational opportunities, such as bird watching. Additionally, the Marine Sea would provide for water-based recreational opportunities that have historically occurred at the Salton Sea. This would include boating and fishing opportunities and allow for the ongoing operation of the majority of the existing harbors at the Salton Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Dale Hoffman-Floerke, Salton Sea PEIR Comments
CA Department of Water Resources
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

I am writing to offer my comments on the draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report for the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program.

There is no question that California must take action at the Salton Sea. A shrinking Salton Sea would subject the residents of Imperial and Coachella valleys to hundreds of additional tons of harmful dust each year that would be blown off the exposed land. A smaller, saltier sea also would be of little or no value to many of the 400 species of birds that currently use the sea. With the loss of nearly 95 percent of California?s wetlands, many of these birds would have no other place to go, leading to catastrophic losses.

Fortunately, a successful plan can be pieced together from the proposed alternatives in the draft report. I therefore urge your department to combine the following features from the proposed alternatives into a final preferred alternative to restore the Salton Sea:

Sincerely,

Leonard Thomas
2912 Cherimoya Ct
Antelope, CA 95843-4028

LT-1

Leonard Thomas (LT)

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

From: Peter Tigler
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: Saltic needs restoration
Date: Tuesday, January 09, 2007 4:44:35 PM
Attachments:

Jan 9, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

To whom it may concern:

It should be mandatory that you do whatever it takes to save the Saltic Sea for the sake of the migrating birds. So many living species have been wiped out off the face of earth...and it is too late to save them. Look at what happened to the white dolphins in China. They no longer exists. What happened...gosh!

Thank you,

Peter Tigler
2019 21st St
Santa Monica, CA 90404

Sincerely,

Peter Tigler
2019 21st St
Santa Monica, CA 90404-4809

PT-1

Peter Tigler (PT)

PT-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

From: grnislnd@readymail.net
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: Comments on Salton Sea Restoration
Date: Wednesday, January 10, 2007 8:18:35 PM
Attachments:

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
CA Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

I am writing to comment on the Draft PEIR on Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration (California).
Their are over (400 species) of birds which depend on this ecosystem to maintain them and provide a resting place during their annual migrations.
These bird species are important in creating balance in the environment...we can not afford to have even more species becoming depleted or extinct.
Insect/pest control, seed/plant , fertility, and animal/fish/aquatic balance are all maintained by having many species of birds/waterfowl interacting with the environment.
Recreational activities are also possible for humans, which may lead to increased tourist business dollars.
Thank you very much for your consideration of this proposal,
Sincerely, Richard Thanner

RT-1

Sincerely,
Richard Thanner

Richard Thanner (RT)

RT-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

Although not a legislatively mandated objective, the Saline Habitat Complex is expected to allow for passive recreational opportunities, such as bird watching. Additionally, the Marine Sea would provide for water-based recreational opportunities that have historically occurred at the Salton Sea. This would include boating and fishing opportunities and allow for the ongoing operation of the majority of the existing harbors at the Salton Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

49

Sincerely,

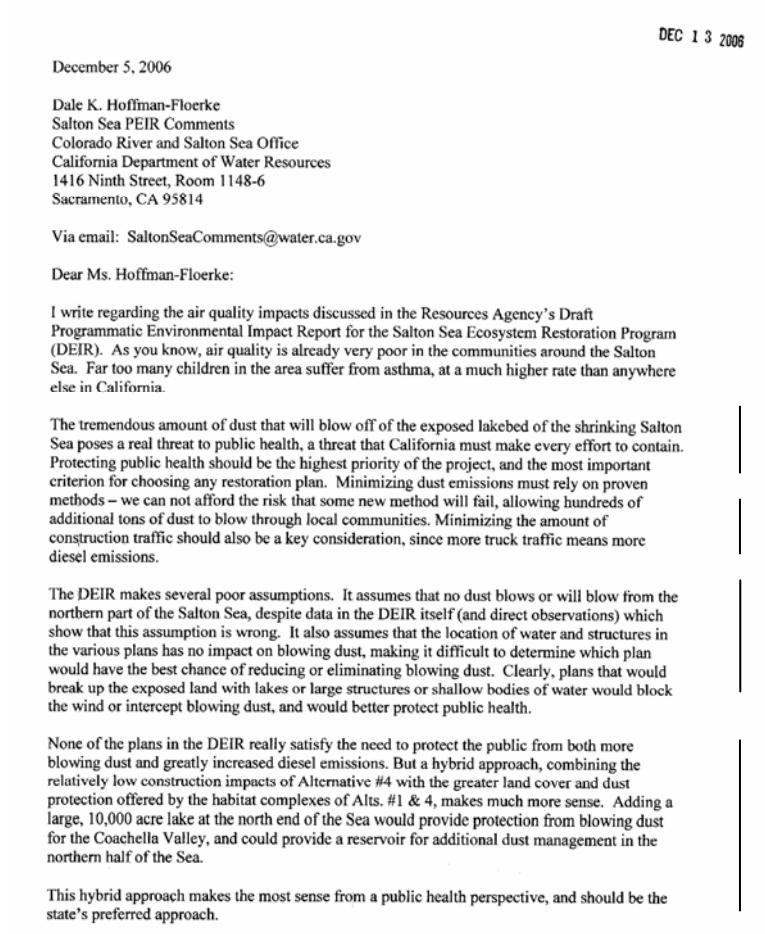
Vera Taylor
1925 N 3rd St Apt 204
Baton Rouge, LA 70802-5171

VT-1

Vera Taylor (VT)

VT-1

Your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.



DEC 1 3 2006

December 5, 2006

Dale K. Hoffman-Floerke
Salton Sea PEIR Comments
Colorado River and Salton Sea Office
California Department of Water Resources
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Via email: SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke:

I write regarding the air quality impacts discussed in the Resources Agency's Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report for the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program (DEIR). As you know, air quality is already very poor in the communities around the Salton Sea. Far too many children in the area suffer from asthma, at a much higher rate than anywhere else in California.

The tremendous amount of dust that will blow off of the exposed lakebed of the shrinking Salton Sea poses a real threat to public health, a threat that California must make every effort to contain. Protecting public health should be the highest priority of the project, and the most important criterion for choosing any restoration plan. Minimizing dust emissions must rely on proven methods – we can not afford the risk that some new method will fail, allowing hundreds of additional tons of dust to blow through local communities. Minimizing the amount of construction traffic should also be a key consideration, since more truck traffic means more diesel emissions.

The DEIR makes several poor assumptions. It assumes that no dust blows or will blow from the northern part of the Salton Sea, despite data in the DEIR itself (and direct observations) which show that this assumption is wrong. It also assumes that the location of water and structures in the various plans has no impact on blowing dust, making it difficult to determine which plan would have the best chance of reducing or eliminating blowing dust. Clearly, plans that would break up the exposed land with lakes or large structures or shallow bodies of water would block the wind or intercept blowing dust, and would better protect public health.

None of the plans in the DEIR really satisfy the need to protect the public from both more blowing dust and greatly increased diesel emissions. But a hybrid approach, combining the relatively low construction impacts of Alternative #4 with the greater land cover and dust protection offered by the habitat complexes of Alts. #1 & 4, makes much more sense. Adding a large, 10,000 acre lake at the north end of the Sea would provide protection from blowing dust for the Coachella Valley, and could provide a reservoir for additional dust management in the northern half of the Sea.

This hybrid approach makes the most sense from a public health perspective, and should be the state's preferred approach.

RU-1

RU-2

RU-3

RU-4

Robert and Renna Ulvang (RU)

RU-1

The protection of public health would be an important component of any restoration alternative for the Salton Sea. As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project. These measures include the allocation of 0.5 acre-foot per acre of water to manage emissive areas of the Exposed Playa. The Preferred Alternative also includes actions and mitigation measures to reduce air quality impacts that could result from construction and operations and maintenance activities.

RU-2

While the Preferred Alternative utilizes proven methods to minimize dust emissions, the Preferred Alternative also recognizes that there may be changes in technology in the future and/or innovate technologies that could be used to minimize dust emissions. It would be appropriate for the implementing agency to thoroughly test any new technology at the Salton Sea prior to use of the technology on a large scale.

RU-3

The Draft PEIR indicates that, based on available data, windspeeds in the vicinity of the northern end of the Salton Sea seldom exceed threshold windspeeds, resulting in no predicted emissions in the model used to evaluate alternatives. However, the evaluation tool was designed to provide a relative comparison of air quality among alternatives, and not to produce an exact absolute level of emissions. This level of analysis is considered appropriate for evaluation of alternatives at the programmatic level.

More detailed meteorological data being collected. Greater detail regarding the layout and exact form of structures and surfaces in specific projects would be available for future emissions source mapping and windfield analyses. It is anticipated that project-level analysis could employ these more precise tools. These tools may indicate that local windspeeds periodically exceed threshold windspeeds for surfaces in the northern Salton Sea, and produce more exact absolute dust emission results.

Should this be the case, appropriate monitoring and mitigation is foreseen in the Draft PEIR. Where dust emissions are predicted or observed by the extensive proposed monitoring network, short-term and long-term dust control is planned for deployment. See Appendix H-3 of the Draft PEIR for discussions of emissions monitoring and development and deployment of dust control onto the playa surface.

RU (cont.)

RU-4

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

e Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred ernative.

DEC 13 2006

RU (cont.)

Thank you for considering my comments. I look forward to a Salton Sea restoration plan that protects public health by minimizing dust and diesel emissions.

Sincerely,

Robert & Renna Ulvang

Robert and Renna Ulvang
6302 Shelter Creek Lane
San Bruno, CA 94066

From: Donald Van Wieren
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject:
Date: Thursday, December 14, 2006 6:10:12 AM
Attachments:

May seem like a goofy idea , but....how about working a deal with Mexico and build a pipeline to the Gulf Of California...that water is less salty than the Salton Sea....pump the water in to maintain a very even level.....low elavation of the sea would save a lot on pumping cost....almost a siphon effect
Don

DV-1

Donald Van Wieren (DV)

DV-1

Alternatives that maintain the whole Salton Sea, including the importation of water from the Gulf of California were described in Chapter 2 of the Draft PEIR. As discussed in Chapter 2, this alternative was considered but was not carried forward in the Draft. The importation of water from the Gulf of California was not carried forward because the alternative does not meet the CEQA requirement for feasibility as the State would not legally be able to control or have access to the portion of the project that would be located in the Republic of Mexico.

Comments prepared for the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program PEIR

By Wayne Vernon 1/15/2007

The PEIR has pulled together thoughts and studies from the last several decades and has generated several very feasible alternatives for restoration of the Sea. Unfortunately, the restoration concentrates on salinity while the biggest problem in the Sea is probably nutrient loading and the incredible growth that is possible in the water when the sun shines. It seems that there is no known solution for dealing with the growth problem, but there may be a way to develop a solution in the 75-year time scale of the PEIR. The Salton Sea represents a giant opportunity as well as a really big problem. In the future there will be even more need for bio-fuels, and the Sea at its present size could, in principle, become the source each year of billions of gallons of fuel that uses up atmospheric carbon dioxide in its production rather than creating more of the critical CO_2 gas.

WV-1

Another missing component in the PEIR involves industry. There is no mention of where or how industries such as fish production would be located or regulated. If there is to be a solution to the organic growth problem at the Sea, it would most likely come from an industrial process and a large facility that can convert billions of tons of liquids and feedstock into fish, food and bio-fuels. This kind of economic opportunity would transform the community as well as provide the cash flow needed to operate a large environmental restoration activity.

Alternatives for a Salton Sea restoration as proposed in the PEIR do not include an import/export option. I believe that a reasonable combination of some of the features in the presented alternatives with some optimum scale of flow to and from the Pacific could be built and operated for an amount of money that is not too different than those being proposed. When a stable, large area Sea is seen to be possible, then it becomes very attractive to private enterprise. The State could charge for use of the water and the location and pay for the yearly cost of operation and, perhaps, even the costs of the bonds needed for the original construction. Such a fee for resources could also allow for purchasing of water in the future, an eventual inevitable outcome when population growth in the region consumes all available water.

WV-2

Although the above suggestions represent a large increase in complexity and uncertainty, the alternatives presented in the PEIR are even worse. To rely on the "Luck Theorem" to survive the effects of the massive organic productivity of the Sea is to be asking for big trouble.

Wayne Vernon
San Diego, CA

Wayne Vernon (WV)

WV-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative. Although it does not include the production of bio-fuels, such production could be considered during future project-level analysis if it is related to restoration actions at the Salton Sea. Production of bio-fuels at the Salton Sea could also be considered as a separate project by other individuals, corporations, or agencies.

WV-2

Alternatives that maintain the whole Salton Sea, including the importation of water from the Gulf of California and the Pacific Ocean were described in Chapter 2 of the Draft PEIR. As discussed in Chapter 2, these alternatives were considered but were not carried forward as alternatives in the Draft. The importation of water from the Gulf of California was not carried forward because the alternative does not meet the CEQA requirement for feasibility as the State would not legally be able to control or have access to the portion of the project that would be located in the Republic of Mexico. The importation of water from the Pacific Ocean was not carried forward because the alternative has the potential to have substantial biological and water quality impacts in the Pacific Ocean and thus, did not appear to be feasible to obtain the necessary permits and approvals.

Jan 6, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

I watched a video about forests the other day, and the amount of species that are left scares me. I know that has nothing to do with the Salton Sea, but it does. If we keep destroying wildlife's habitat, then one day where are all the birds? Gone, exstinct. Where are all the Black Bears? Gone, exstinct. Where are all the Moose, Geese, Mountain Goats, Red Foxes, Frogs, Newts, Eagles, Wild Horses and the Butterflies? They're all GONE. Disappeared from our universe. Disappeared for good, and we can't bring them back. Please save the Salton Sea. Thanks for reading this e-mail.

Anna Wagemann Age-11
7313 S. 177th St.
68136, Omaha, NE

Sincerely,

Anna Wagemann
7313 S 177th St
Omaha, NE 68136-2033

AW-1

Anna Wagemann (AW)

AW-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

The Salton Sea is a critical habitat for migratory birds. Preventing its destruction effects birds that we enjoy and are part of our world. We owe our citizens and our flying and four legged animals the right to exist in an environment with clean air and water. Please consider the Defenders of Wildfife's proposals for the Salton Sea ecosystem. Once a habitat is gone it is almost impossible to re-create. We are depending on you to making important decisions that will preserve one of our national treasures.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Candy Wansley
3635 Iskagna Dr
Knoxville, TN 37919-7763

CWansley-1

Candy Wansley (CWansley)

CWansley-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

The Salton Sea is a national treasure, and the state must take action to prevent its disappearance. A shrinking Salton Sea will not only harm the health of communities in the surrounding Imperial and Coachella Valleys by affecting air and water quality, but it will also harm an important migratory bird stopover in the Pacific Flyway.

With over 90 percent of the wetlands in California gone, the 400 bird species that depend on the Salton Sea will have no other place to go, leading to catastrophic losses for migratory bird populations.

From the saltonsea website:Almost 120,000 acres of Salton Sea lakebed could be exposed as inflows to the Sea decrease in future years. Based on the studies, local communities may be affected by 60,000 potentially dust-blowing acres, which will cause PM-10 levels to rise.

The City of Los Angeles' water diversions caused about 45,000 acres to be exposed at Owens Lake, located in a similar desert environment, and by the end of this year approximately 30,000 acres must be controlled by the region's local air control district.

PM-10 levels at Owens Lake can be 100 times greater than the federal standard and 300 times greater than the state standard. Even if the peak 24-hour concentrations at the Salton Sea are only a fraction as bad as Owens Lake, the levels could still be significantly higher than the state and federal standards, threatening public health. Currently, the Imperial and Coachella Valleys do not meet existing standards for PM-10 levels.

PM-10 is very fine dust that lodges deep into the lungs and causes health problems, including asthma. The California Air Resources Board in consultation with the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) has concluded that the potential impacts from exposure to particulate matter (PM) air pollution are significant. Health effects associated with PM exposure include premature mortality, increased hospital admissions for cardiopulmonary causes, acute and chronic bronchitis, asthma attacks and emergency room visits, respiratory symptoms and days with some restriction in activity. These adverse health affects have been primarily reported in infants, children, the elderly and those with preexisting cardiopulmonary disease.

http://www.saltonseacoalition.org/pages/thesaltonsea.cgi

It is not only a matter of saving birds from extinction, it is also a matter of preserving air quality in the area.

Sincerely,

Carol Webb
2832 Cherokee Ave
Jacksonville, FL 32210-4356

CWebb-1

CWebb-2

Carol Webb (CWebb)

CWebb-1

The protection of public health would be an important component of any restoration alternative for the Salton Sea. As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project. These measures include the allocation of 0.5 acre-foot per acre of water to manage emissive areas of the Exposed Playa. The Preferred Alternative also includes actions and mitigation measures to reduce air quality impacts that could result from construction and operations and maintenance activities.

CWebb-2

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

Please do everything you can to save the Salton Sea.
Thank you,
Damaris Welles

Sincerely,

Damaris Welles
224 Cottonwood Dr
Saint Paul, MN 55127-6104

DWelles-1

Damaris Welles (DWelles)

DWelles-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

Jan 5, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

I would like to comment on the California Department of Water Resources Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report on the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program (PEIR).

Habit loss is the biggest single threat to wildlife all over the planet. The Salton Sea represents unique and irreplaceable habitat for many species, including many migratory birds. It is vital that the integrity of this ecosystem be preserved for the long term. Any plans that do not absolutely insure this as first priority must be questioned and revised.

Sincerely,

David Wellman
HC 60 Box 227
Copper Center, AK 99573-9703

DWellman-1

David Wellman (DWellman)

DWellman-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

As a supporter of Defenders of Wildlife I feel somewhat guilty about sending this letter but I had to do so in the interests of truth and science.

The Salton Sea is not a natural sea, and has no natural source. It was created by a huge accident, one of the most costly accidents in history, when you consider the huge amount of water lost at the time--enough to create a sea in just a few days. The event was nealy biblical in proportions.

For the State of California to refill the Salton sea would be an expensive waste of water that is in short supply as it is. The Colorado River is a resource like any other, and finite. We cannot afford to "spend" our future subsidizing a lake that cannot exist without us, and has no benefit for us to match the humongous costs involved. **DWickerd-1**

As a resident of Mohave County, Arizona, I ask that you NOT try to save the Salton Sea. The birds will be able to stop along the coast and the river as they did for thousands of years before the construction of the California Aqueduct system created the Salton Sea. **DWickerd-2**

Save the water from the Colorado River Aquifer for the people and animals who live along it...and the cities in California that depend upon it for survival. **DWickerd-3**

Sincerely,

Donna Wickerd
PO Box 1402
Dolan Springs, AZ 86441-1402

Donna Wickerd (DWickerd)

DWickerd-1

The Resources Agency has a statutory mandate to prepare a programmatic environmental document and a restoration study and to determine a preferred alternative for the restoration of the Salton Sea ecosystem and the protection of wildlife dependent on that ecosystem (see Fish and Game Code Section 2081.7). The Salton Sea Restoration Act (Fish and Game Code 2931(c)(1-3)) states that “the preferred alternative shall provide the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives: (1) Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea. (2) Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration projects. (3) Protection of water quality.”

DWicked-2

See response to comment DWickerd-1.

DWickerd-3

See response to comment DWickerd-1.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

As the Salton Sea shrinks someone must realize we are depriving 400 species of birds their natural stopover as they migrate. This obviously spells the beginning of the end for these creatures of nature. Creatures that can never be replacced.

We must stop this terrible fact fromm happenng and must refrain from once again altering Mother Nature.
Please do all in your power to help!

Sincerely,

Ed Wagner
15129 Hiawatha St
Mission Hills, CA 91345-2514

EW-1

Ed Wagner (EW)

EW-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Hartmut Walter (HW)

From: Hartmut Walter
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC:
Subject: Comments on PEIR
Date: Wednesday, January 17, 2007 5:03:57 AM
Attachments: Salton Sea Comments HSW 1-15-07.doc
2007JanFeb_Color_WebVersion.pdf

Dear DWR:

I sent my comments yesterday to the general DWR email address. To make sure that my input has been received I have attached my comments and a separate article written about the PEIR process. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Hartmut S. Walter
Professor
Department of geography
UCLA
Tel. 310-825-3116
Email walter@geog.ucla.edu

HW (cont.)

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

UCLA

BERKELEY · DAVIS · IRVINE · LOS ANGELES · RIVERSIDE · SAN DIEGO · SAN FRANCISCO

SANTA BARBARA · SANTA CRUZ

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY
1255 BUNCHE HALL
405 HILGARD AVENUE
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90095-1524
(310) 825-1071 FAX (310) 206-5976

January 15, 2007

Attn: Dale Hoffman-Floerke
Salton Sea PEIR Comments
California Department of Water Resources
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Draft PEIR on the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program

I greatly admire and commend the work of the Salton Sea Advisory Committee. The Draft PEIR has enabled me to learn much more about the complex issues facing the restoration efforts of the Salton Sea Ecosystem than any earlier publications on the Salton Sink. In particular, I appreciated the summary portion outlining and comparing the eight Alternatives. In order to assist my state's agencies with the development of a final restoration plan, I wish to provide a few short comments on several aspects of this PEIR.

As a senior and independent conservation biologist, biogeographer, ecologist and ornithologist my concerns deal mostly with the environmental health of the entire Salton Sink ecosystem, particularly the outrageous *water pollution*, the impending *dust emergency* around a shrinking Salton Sea, the problem of *long-term wildlife disturbance* during earth- and water-moving construction periods, and the creation of *better habitats for pupfish and waterbirds*. I attach my recent article on the Salton Sea issue (designed to spark readers' interest in the restoration debate) that reflects my general approach to the importance of the Salton Sea. Basically, it is my opinion that the actual and potential value of the *natural capital* of the Salton Sea ecosystem is huge and increasing steadily as more and more wetland and open space habitat is converted to exurban housing tracts and agriculture. Therefore the ongoing restoration program is not only important but a necessary endeavor for the future of the natural heritage of California and the Southwest.

A. Water Pollution

It is appalling that the Salton Sea has become a giant sewer. Long overdue is the complete treatment and recycling of all sewage and other waste water in the Imperial and Coachella Valleys. While millions of $ are spent in Los Angeles and at my school UCLA to prevent all street and lawn runoff from reaching the precious Pacific coastal waters, here in SE California we a find a kind of Wild West environmental recklessness. I refer to all the published pollution studies and measurements of rivers and other inflows to the Salton Sea. Just last week, on a visit to the Salton Sea area, we endured the toxic smell of a large stream of sewage-like water entering

the Salton Sea at the north end of Garst Rd. Nearby were hundreds of avocets wading through the soft bluish muck (see photo below).

Avocets at Salton Sea near Garst Road, Jan. 4, 2007

Earlier we witnessed the disturbing sight of masses of large white globs of detergent (?) foam flowing down the *New River* at its intersection with State Highway 111. I enclose two photos of this event. I have not seen such an environmental travesty since the 1960s. Some of the foam bubbles were blown through the air and crossed over the road. Enquiries with the desk at the Sonny Bono NWR resulted in the laconic comments that this pollution emanates from south of the border. It is a sad sign of indifference and neglect that we have allowed this long recognized pollution hotspot (certainly a superfund site) to persist. Do all the Alternatives provide assurance that no polluted water will enter any of the newly created lakes and saline habitats?

HW-1

New River upstream of 111 Hwy bridge 58-183, Jan. 4, 2007

HW (cont.)

HW-1

One of the major functions of the Salton Sea is to serve as a sump for agricultural wastewater from the Imperial and Coachella Valleys. Executive Order of Withdrawal (Public Water Reserve No. 114, California No. 26), signed in 1928, designated lands within the Salton Basin below elevation 220 feet below mean sea level as storage for wastes and seepage from irrigated lands in the Imperial Valley. Approximately 75 percent of the inflow to the Sea is agricultural drain water from Imperial Valley. Agricultural discharges in the Imperial Valley contain pesticides, nutrients, selenium, and silt in amounts that violate water quality standards. The Salton Sea also receives discharges from the New and Alamo rivers. The New River originates in Mexico, flows approximately 20 miles through the City of Mexicali, Mexico, crosses the International Boundary, continues through the City of Calexico in the United States, and travels northward about 60 miles to the Salton Sea. The New River carries urban runoff, untreated and partially treated municipal wastes, untreated and partially treated industrial wastes, and agricultural runoff from the Mexicali Valley, Mexico into the United States. In addition, the New River carries urban runoff, agricultural runoff, treated industrial wastes, and treated, disinfected and non-disinfected domestic wastes from the Imperial Valley. The Alamo River originates about 2 miles south of the International Boundary with Mexico, and flows northward across the border for about 50 miles to the Salton Sea. The Alamo River is dominated by agricultural return flows from Imperial Valley, but also carries treated wastewater from point sources in Imperial Valley.

Restoration of the Salton Sea ecosystem must maintain the ability of the Salton Sea to serve as a sump for agricultural wastewater from the Imperial and Coachella Valleys. In addition, the source water for the Salton Sea and, thus for the restoration alternatives, are primarily agricultural drains and the New and Alamo rivers. Hence, any restoration alternative will continue to receive water with various levels of pollutants. However, the CRBRWQCB has established Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) limits for several pollutants causing impairments to ensure that impaired waters attain their beneficial uses. The CRBRWQCB has adopted TMDLs for sedimentation/siltation for the Alamo and New rivers and Imperial Valley drains and pathogens for the New River, and has draft TMDLs for bacteria for the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel, trash and dissolved oxygen for the New River, and nutrients for the Salton Sea. These TMDLs, and operation of the Mexicali II Wastewater Treatment Plant in Mexico, are expected to significantly improve the quality of water flowing into the Salton Sea as described in the Draft PEIR.

New River downstream of 111 Hwy bridge 58-183, Jan. 4, 2007

Apart from the obvious dangers to human health my interest here concerns the physical health of all the waders and other waterbirds exposed to this morass. I am familiar with the episodes of bird epidemics at the Salton Sea but would like to find out if any research has ever been conducted that compares the *average life expectancy* and fertility of birds wintering at the Salton Sea with those of birds frequenting wetlands with less toxic waters.

B. Dust Problems

This serious issue, experienced already at Owens Lake and in the Aral Sea, deserves much more attention. One suggestion would be to consider the wide application of *salt cedar shelterbelts* along many of the new berms and ditches. In fact, I wonder, why these dust- and soil-binding linear landscape elements have not been used in the Imperial Valley. They reduce wind velocity, provide shade and have a cooling effect on the microclimate. They will require some water but this could be recycled and still slightly saline water.

HW-2

C. Wildlife Disturbance during Restoration and Transition Phases

It was sobering to study the PEIR chart on the timeline of Phase I to III of each Alternative. For the final Alternative, the EIR should spell out in great detail how the rich seasonal diversity of wildlife, particularly birds, can be protected from the possibly decades-lasting deleterious side effects of each phase of the reconstruction efforts.

HW-3

D. Pupfish Conservation

My reading of the Alternatives leads me to believe that too much of a good thing has been suggested. In other words, too much water, too much engineering, too much money has been allocated to ensure the utmost connectivity of the Pupfish subpopulations around the Sea. This is commendable (we all love the pupfish!) but may actually put the taxon at danger. Here is why: there has been a long debate in conservation biology circles whether it is better to have one large reserve for all individuals of a species or to subdivide the reserve in such a way that one or more

3

HW (cont.)

HW-2

The use of tamarisk (salt cedar) to provide vegetative cover to control dust by reducing wind speeds at the soil/air interface was not considered because of its high water demand compared to more water efficient vegetation like Atriplex (saltbush). Water is an important factor when considering restoration options and the use of large amounts of water for air quality management is particularly problematic. Research has shown that tall, dense stands of salt cedar have the potential to use over 9 acre-feet of water per year for every acre of salt cedar. Therefore, 50,000 acres of Exposed Playa that is covered with salt cedar has the potential to use over 450,000 acre-feet of water per year. This is more than half of the total water budget for the entire restoration program.

HW-3

The Draft PEIR recognizes the affects of implementation on fish and wildlife for each of the alternatives. As stated on Table 8-4 of the Draft PEIR, Next Steps (i.e., mitigation measures) include the consideration of measures during project-level analysis that could avoid disturbance of fish and wildlife resources during construction and operations and maintenance. A schedule for the Preferred Alternative is included in Chapter 3 of the Final PEIR.

subpopulations are spatially isolated from the main population center as a security in case of unpredictable events such as disease, new predators, and environmental uncertainty. Recent published evidence tends to favor the latter approach.

In this specific case, it is my opinion that the *precautionary principle* favors managing the pupfish population (which breeds readily even outside the Salton Sea Sink such as the Coachella Valley Nature Preserve) as distinct and spatially segregated subpopulations. Loss of genetic diversity can easily be prevented by the occasional transfer of several individual pupfish between natural breeding habitats. As a further management tool, I would suggest keeping the water bodies containing pupfish fairly discrete and small; this way, fish demography, water quality and potential invasive species can be monitored and controlled more effectively.

HW-4

E. Bird Conservation

Waterbirds need a better and healthier Salton Sea; the eight Alternatives promise many improvements for breeding, migrating and wintering species. I am particularly impressed by the emphasis on the creation of thousands of acres of the *shallow saline habitat complex*. This habitat type is known worldwide as highly attractive to many shorebird and duck species. If properly managed in terms of water height and degree of salinity, it will become a great addition to the rich complex of waterbird habitats in the Salton Sink.

F. Ecosystem Management

I am somewhat apprehensive about the 75 year time span of the project. I understand that water agencies want and need the certainty of long-term contracts. When it comes to wildlife habitats, however, it is almost unheard of, I believe, to legally bind natural habitats and their species as if they were physical commodities like acre-feet of water. In modern ecosystem management, we use monitoring and adaptive strategies to periodically adjust, correct, improve components and processes of the ecosystem. Ecosystems change, probably more rapidly now than in the recent past. As a consequence, I strongly urge including in the *preferred final Alternative* a requirement for periodic *evaluation assessments* every 15 years or so. In a time of uncertain regional climate warming, there has to be the option to make more than minor adjustments to the restoration program. I think that this can be achieved without altering the respective water contracts between major stakeholders such as San Diego Water and the Imperial Irrigation District.

HW-5

I look forward to a speedy completion of the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program.

Sincerely,

Hartmut S. Walter, Ph.D.
Professor
Email: *walter@geog.ucla.edu*

Attachment: Article: Hartmut S. Walter. 2007. ***A Better Salton Sea for Our Birds*** (*Western Tanager* 73 (3): 1-5).

HW (cont.)

HW-4

Populations of desert pupfish which occupy discrete inputs (drains and creeks) that flow into the Salton Sea are currently presumed connected as a single metapopulation which allows some level of gene flow among the populations. The most recent analysis of desert pupfish genetics supports this conclusion. Desert pupfish connectivity, as described in the Draft PEIR, would maintain, to varying degrees, the existing population connections.

While a fully connected population is susceptible to a certain level of risk from the rapid spread of diseases, parasites, and/or invasive species. Maintaining the present connectivity of desert pupfish would not expose the species to a greater risk than it currently experiences. Without such connections, there is a risk that a single population could be extirpated during times of low or non-existent water, and would not be re-populated.

A guiding principle of conservation biology is to protect and sustain conditions which allow a species' natural processes to persist, without the need for human intervention. Physically segregating sub-populations is normally only undertaken as a last resort, when conditions require it for the protection of the species. The USFWS Recovery Plan for desert pupfish requires the creation of a number of small discrete "refugia" for desert pupfish, as suggested by the comment, to protect against (inter alia) the potential threats referred to in the comment. However, to manage the entire population in this manner would be extremely costly, and would neglect the responsibilities that resource agencies have to act as stewards of habitat, and populations in situ.

HW-5

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

HW (cont.)

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

The Preferred Alternative also includes a variety of actions that could be implemented within the 5-year timeframe after the Legislature provides direction on implementing of a restoration program and identifies a future implementing agency. These actions include activities such as Early Start Habitat, measures targeted to address air quality uncertainties, and development of an adaptive management program.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

The attachments provided with this letter are included in Appendix A

Jan 5, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

sURELY WE CAN FIND A BETTER WAY TO TREAT GOD'S CREATURES THAT HE ENTRUSTED TO US. HE IS ALWAYS WATCHING! **JW-1**

Sincerely,

Jennifer Wyatt
5411 Summit St
Whitehall, PA 18052-1725

Jennifer Wyatt (JW)

JW-1

Thank you for your letter and interest in the Salton Sea and the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program. However, your comment does not raise any concerns or questions specific to the State's Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Draft PEIR.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

I've been to the Salton Sea and it is nasty. Dead birds and the shore had black sticky mud. I don't want to visit it so why would birds and other creatures.

We, as the landlords of the Earth, appointed by a Higher Power, owe it to our children and future generations, no less all migratory birds and other creatures, to clean up this awful situation and save it to sustain life.

Humans need all of God's creatures. Let's be responsible stewards and clean up and refresh the Salton Sea - not eliminate it.
Thanks for your time.
Lucinda Wead

Sincerely,

Lucinda Wead
9634 E Catalina Dr
Prescott Valley, AZ 86314-7603

LW-1

Lucinda Wead (LWead)

LWead-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Dale Hoffman-Floerke
Salton Sea PEIR Comments
CA Department of Water Resources
Colorado River & Salton Sea Office
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Sir,

In order to satisfy the requirements put forth by the Legislature, a new alternative restoration plan needs to be drafted for the Salton Sea.

Please take the best parts of each of the proposed alternatives and create a new alternative which satisfies the legal requirement for timely maximization of effectively restoring Salton Sea wildlife habitat, performs local and regional air quality protection, and provides local and regional water quality protection.

Restoration of this important habitat is crucial to flyway restoration, air quailtiy, and water quality in California.

Thank you for your due diligence.

Lynda Winslow
1442A Walnut, #373
Berkeley, CA 94709

LWinslow-1

Lynda Winslow (LWinslow)

LWinslow-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

The 62,000-acre Saline Habitat Complex included in the Preferred Alternative would be located in the southern and northern portion of the Salton Sea and would provide habitat for a variety of avian species such as shorebirds, waterfowl, and potentially for fish-eating birds, including sensitive species currently found at the Salton Sea. It is expected that the Saline Habitat Complex would also provide limited habitat for some fish species, such as tilapia, and thus, provide foraging habitat for fish-eating birds. The Saline Habitat Complex is expected to provide the microclimate benefits that currently exist at the Salton Sea, and could be constructed using a variety of construction methods including Geotubes®.

The 45,000-acre Marine Sea included in the Preferred Alternative would be located primarily in the northern portion of the Sea, but would extend down the majority of the eastern and western shorelines. It is intended to support a marine fishery and fish-eating birds (such as pelicans, double-crested cormorants, and black skimmers). The Marine Sea would stabilize at a water surface elevation of -230 feet msl with a salinity between 30,000 mg/L and 40,000 mg/L. The water depth would be less than 10 to 12 meters (39 feet) to reduce hydrogen sulfide generation and potential fish kills due to long-term temperature stratification (temperature variations from top to bottom of the sea).

LWinslow (cont.)

The Preferred Alternative incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project. These measures include the allocation of 0.5 acre-foot per acre of water to manage emissive areas of the Exposed Playa. The Preferred Alternative also includes actions and mitigation measures to reduce air quality impacts that could result from construction and operations and maintenance activities.

Although not a legislatively mandated objective, the Saline Habitat Complex is expected to allow for passive recreational opportunities, such as bird watching. Additionally, the Marine Sea would provide for water-based recreational opportunities that have historically occurred at the Salton Sea. This would include boating and fishing opportunities and allow for the ongoing operation of the majority of the existing harbors at the Salton Sea.

The Preferred Alternative also includes a variety of actions that could be implemented within the 5-year timeframe after the Legislature provides direction on implementing of a restoration program and identifies a future implementing agency. These actions include activities such as Early Start Habitat and measures targeted to address air quality uncertainties.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

With over 90% of California's wetlands gone, it important to take good care of what's left. If those of you in charge of such national treasures as the Salton Sea allow it to shrink or disappear, you will have done the state and the nation a great disservice. It would also harm an important migratory bird stopover in the Pacific Flyway. Most proposals fail to adequately protect fish, wildlife and air and water quality in that area.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Olive Wilson
280 2nd St NE
Primghar, IA 51245-1126

OW-1

Olive Wilson (OW)

OW-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

I grew up in southern California, although I now live in Flagstaff, Arizona.

I resided in southern California for some 45 years before moving, and I don't need to tell you how the wetlands have diminished to near extinction... Because of this, it is imperative that the Salton Sea be not only saved from further desolation, but actually restored and revitalized for the future of the migrating birds.

I am happy to have my tax-dollars budgeted to to support this worthy cause, and would be more than willing to petition the government to make this happen.

Sincerely,

Phoenicia Fontainne Welch
8275 Pine Country Ln
Flagstaff, AZ 86004-9501

PW-1

Phoenicia Fontainne Welch (PW)

PW-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

JAN 1 2 2007

SALTON SEA

Kindly email your COMMENTS to:
saltonseaacomments@water.ca.gov
or
Mail to: Dale Hoffman-Floerke, Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, 1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814
Fax to:
(916) 654-4925
Please feel free to use the sample letter:

Dear Dale Hoffman-Floerke:

I am a very concerned citizen residing in the Coachella Valley and I am formally endorsing the following comments:

Between 25,000 & 50,000 acres of Shallow Saline Habitat Complex, as described in Alternatives 1 and 2, at the southern and northern ends of the Sea to provide habitat for shoreline species;

Create concentric rings using geotubes or other dirt-filled barriers, as described in Alternative 4, to provide additional shallow habitat, deeper marine habitat, shoreline and view protection, air-quality protections, and recreation;

Similar to the lakes found in Alternatives 5-7, provide a large (approximately 10,000 acre) North Lake, which would be the largest recreational lake in Southern California, fed by the Whitewater River to provide recreation and development opportunities without the costs and risks associated with a major mid-Sea barrier or the costs of pumping water from the southern end of the Sea;

Provide at least one-half acre-foot of water per acre of exposed Seabed, as stipulated by the Salton Sea Advisory Committee, to prevent dust pollution caused by exposed playa, as described in Alternatives 1-3, 5-6 and 8;

Construct shallow saline habitat immediately to provide resources for birds during the long permitting and construction process, as described in all of the proposed alternatives; and

Develop a plan that provides water for habitat and air quality mitigation first, in case of possible shortages or system malfunctions, as described in Alternatives 1-3.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectively,

R.H. WOOLSTON
73530 ADOBE SPRINGS DR.
PALM DESERT, CA. 92260
760-340-5895

NOTE: AS A HOME OWNER, WHO THINKS THIS VALLEY IS A WONDERFUL PLACE TO LIVE (BOTH WINTER AND SUMMER), I AM VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE EFFECT ON OUR LOCAL CLIMATE, SHOULD THE SALTON SEA DRY UP. WHAT HAPPENS TO THE TEMPERATURE, THE BREEZES, AND THE DUST SITUATION ??? **RW-2**

RW-1

R.H. Woolston (RW)

RW-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

RW-2

Chapter 10 of the Draft PEIR discusses the regional climate and air quality of the Salton Sea watershed, including the Existing Conditions and the potential impacts of the restoration alternatives (including the No Action Alternative). As the Salton Sea recedes, areas currently under water will become exposed, possibly exacerbating dust and other air quality problems. The Draft PEIR estimates potential emissions and describes and compares the potential air quality impacts of several restoration alternatives. This analysis is based on conservative assumptions of playa emissivity, available data on site-specific meteorology and ambient air quality, results of sampling and analysis of soil and sediment composition, expert knowledge of salt chemistry and crust formation, observations of dust events reported by area residents and scientists, and results of wind tunnel measurements and other tests. The Draft PEIR then identifies a "toolbox" of possible dust control measures and their relative effectiveness, based on proven performance in other playa-like areas, informed opinions from regulatory agencies, and input from technical experts. More detailed studies of playa emissivity, potential human health effects, and pilot projects of control measure effectiveness could be conducted during project-level analysis.

RW (cont.)

There is a pronounced microclimate influenced by the Salton Sea in areas adjacent to the water. Regardless of the alternative configuration, the areas near the water would have more of an influence from the Salton Sea than those areas further away. The existence of this microclimate and its influence on the areas adjacent to the Salton Sea are acknowledged in the Draft PEIR in Chapter 10 and Appendix E, Attachment E11, and potential microclimatic impacts have been discussed for each of the alternatives. To define in more detail the effects of this body of water on the surrounding microclimate under each alternative would require additional research. Such an evaluation could be conducted during project-level analysis.

JAN 0 9 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
Salton Sea PEIR comments
CA Department of Water Resources
Colorado River and Salton Sea Office
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke:

re: Salton Sea Comments

None of the currently proposed plans will protect adequately the Salton Sea's fish and birds.

SWeinberg-Harter-1

The final preferred alternative should include a 10,000 acre recreational lake; a series of concentric lakes that provide the maximum possible shoreline habitat; protection of existing shoreline, sufficient shallow saline habitat to conserve existing diversity and density of wildlife.

Such a plan would be faster and less costly to complete than the existing recreational plans, providing both economic and ecological benefits sooner and more feasibly than with any of the eight existing plans.

The Salton Sea is of vital importance as a stop-over for hundreds of species of migrating birds. With your help the Salton Sea can be protected.

Thank you.

Susan Weinberg-Harter
2506 Collier Avenue
San Diego, CA 92116
e-mail: susngeo@juno.com

Susan Weinberg-Harter (SWeinberg-Harter)

SWeinberg-Harter-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

November 18, 2006

Attn: Dale Hoffman-Floerke
Salton Sea PEIR comments
CA Department of Water Resources
Colorado River & Salton Sea Office
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Comments on Draft PEIR for Salton Sea

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke:

Having been a California resident for many years and spending numerous days birding around Southern California's treasure for birds the Salton Sea I am hopeful that you'll give consideration to the plan proposed by Audubon for restoration of the Sea. Every time I visit family in the Southern California area it is always a goal to visit the Sea for its richness of bird life. I believe in the next 20 years birding will be on of the top five passive recreational pursuits of the aging baby boomer population.

I would urge that DWR combine the proposed alternatives put forth by Audubon into a final, preferred alternative that would meet the legal requirements for restoration and provide opportunities for recreation and development in the Imperial and Coachella Valleys. **SWickliffe-1**

As you may know the Sea has been one of the treasures to America birding and if work is done to enhance the sea it will only make it better for the birds and for everyone in California.

I appreciate your time and consideration of these comments.

Steve Wickliffe
1610 Ogden Ave.
Anaconda, Montana
406.563.3243

Steve Wickliffe (SWickliffe)

SWickliffe-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Duane Lee Young (DY)

From: duaneoung@aol.com
To: SaltonSeaComments;
CC: Duaneoung@aol.com;
Subject: Salton Sea Comments
Date: Tuesday, January 16, 2007 3:02:02 PM
Attachments: Ranch_Listing.xls

COCOPAH NURSERIES INC.

(a "young" family company)

81-880 Arus Ave. - Indio, California 92201

Office 760-347-5678, fx 760-342-6188

from the desk of duane lee young

Duane Young email = duaneoung@aol.com

January 16, 2007

VIA FACSIMILE (916) 654-4925
VIA E-MAIL SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov

Attn: Dale Hoffman-Floerke
Salton Sea PEIR Comments
CA Department of Water Resources
Colorado River & Salton Sea Office
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: *Comments on Salton Sea*

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke:

We own interests in property in Riverside and Imperial Counties identified in the attached spreadsheet. These properties are in direct proximity to the Salton Sea. I am sending these comments as part of your public hearings on the restoration alternatives under consideration.

Our ranches are primarily used for agricultural purposes. We grow permanent crops such as palm trees and citrus. The Imperial and Riverside Counties have been ideal places for these crops because of the micro-climate in the area of the Salton Sea, temperate weather, and plentiful water.

DY-1

The water transfers and their affects on the Salton Sea have created great uncertainty for our investments. We are particularly concerned that any restoration plan adopted by you preserves the micro-climate that allows crops to go to market first. Our graver concern, however, has to do with air quality issues as the Salton Sea "shrinks". As I understand the plans under consideration, most of them assume that a large area of the Sea will be exposed and that fugitive dust will be encrusted in the remaining salts. In listening to discussions at public hearings, it appears that there is no guaranteed science that this "encrustation" will work and that be increased dust (including various pollutants) will not adversely affect crops.

DY-2

My further understanding is that the State of California has given an indemnification for damages caused by the water transfers, and that the State of California will implement other air quality mitigation if the selected restoration strategy does not work. The PEIR does not really discuss how the State of California will measure such damage and what criteria will be used for when additional steps will be adopted. And, no where is there a discussion about what money damages are available to landowners if their property is damaged (either physically or diminution in value) by a failed restoration project.

DY-3

Finally, our family has lived in this area for decades and listened to Salton Sea restoration ideas for a long time. At different points, the idea of a canal or pipeline through Mexico has been proposed so that there is a supplemental source of water and a potential outlet. We do not believe that the State of California has done enough to look into this option which many believe is more achievable from

DY-4

DY (cont.)

DY-1

There is a pronounced microclimate influenced by the Salton Sea in areas adjacent to the water. Regardless of the alternative configuration, the areas near the water would have more of an influence from the Salton Sea than those areas further away. The existence of this microclimate and its influence on the areas adjacent to the Salton Sea are acknowledged in the Draft PEIR in Chapter 10 and Appendix E, Attachment E11, and potential microclimatic impacts have been discussed for each of the alternatives. To define in more detail the effects of this body of water on the surrounding microclimate under each alternative would require additional research. Such an evaluation could be conducted during project-level analysis.

DY-2

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

The Preferred Alternative incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project. These measures include the allocation of 0.5 acre-foot per acre of water to manage emissive areas of the Exposed Playa. The Preferred Alternative also includes actions and mitigation measures to reduce air quality impacts that could result from construction and operations and maintenance activities.

ecifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat mplex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures liminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, l includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect er quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the ine Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by ows into the Marine Sea.

DY (cont.)

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

DY-3

While the responsibility for the future environmental and financial costs of the IID Water Conservation and Transfer Project is outside of the scope of the Draft PEIR, the State has entered into an agreement regarding the allocation of these costs. As described in the Quantification Settlement Agreement Joint Powers Authority Agreement, under the IID Water Conservation and Transfer Project and Quantification Settlement Agreement, the State would be responsible for the costs for environmental mitigation requirements in excess of $133 million. Section 9.2 of the Quantification Settlement Agreement Joint Powers Authority Agreement, however, provides that the amount of such costs shall be determined by the affirmative vote of three of the Quantification Settlement Agreement Joint Powers Authority Agreement commissioners, including the commissioner representing the state, which determination shall be reasonably made. The Quantification Settlement Agreement Joint Powers Authority Agreement was executed in October 2003, and changes to this agreement are outside of the scope of the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program.

The Quantification Settlement Agreement Joint Powers Authority Agreement does not indemnify for damages caused by the water transfers.

DY-4

Alternatives that maintain the whole Salton Sea, including the importation of water from the Gulf of California were described in Chapter 2 of the Draft PEIR. As discussed in Chapter 2, this alternative was considered but was not carried forward in the Draft. The importation of water from the Gulf of California was not carried forward because the alternative does not meet the CEQA requirement for feasibility as the State would not legally be able to control or have access to the portion of the project that would be located in the Republic of Mexico.

DY-4 cont.

DY (cont.)

an engineering perspective even if it is more complicated from a political standpoint.

Our futures in Riverside and Imperial counties depend upon a viable Sea and our business interests directly depend upon the success of your endeavors. We appreciate your hard work and would be happy to answer any more questions. At this point, we simply do not think that DWR's environmental document addresses the concerns of agriculture, and we would appreciate that those concerns be clarified and addressed before a remedy is selected.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely

Duane Lee Young

Duane Lee Young

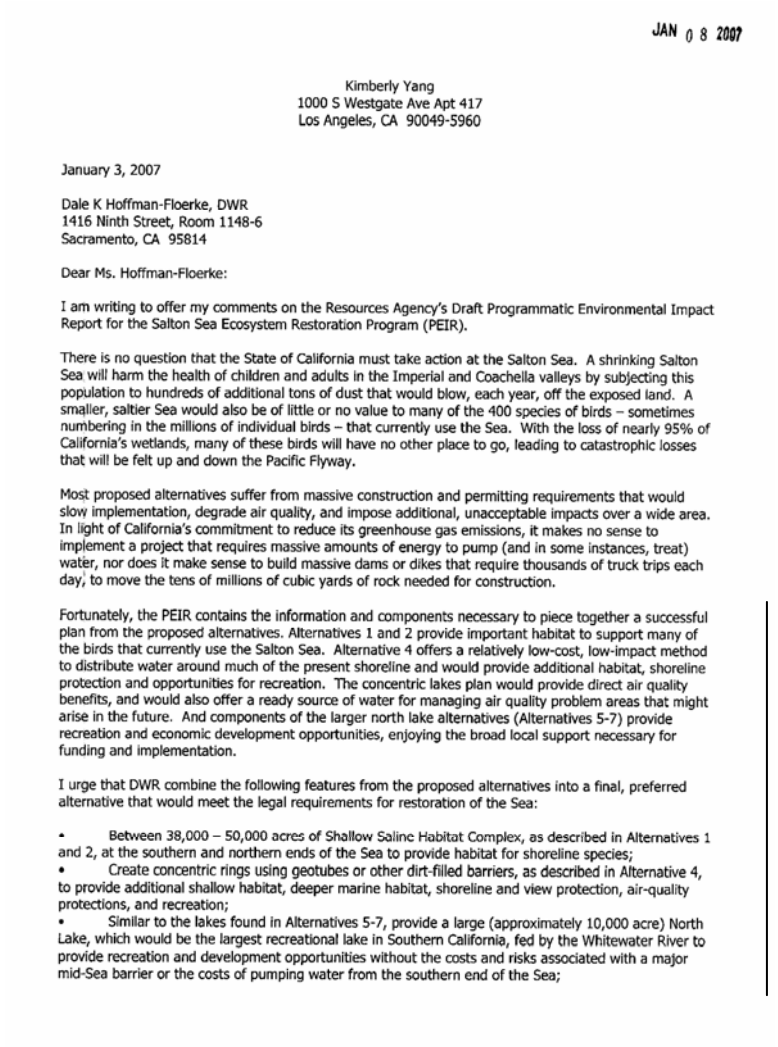
Enclosed Spreadsheet Identifying APN Parcels.

DY (cont.)

Ranch Name	APN	Acres
Imperial County:		
3 Flags	002-370-20	40.0
	002-370-21	100.0
	002-370-28	622.0
	019-010-03	642.0
Cuatro del Mar	019-170-11	320.0
	019-170-15	40.0
	019-170-20	160.0
	019-170-21	160.0
	019-170-23	80.0
	019-170-26	200.0
	019-170-27	189.0
	019-170-28	55.0
Riverside County:		
Fairchild Acres	725-140-006	40.0
	725-150-007	5.6
	725-160-007	15.7
Huerta del Mar	737-280-001	76.5
	737-290-006	75.0
Tierra del Mar	755-240-009	133.0
Indian Palms	737-140-014	19.0
	737-140-015	20.0
Cain Ranch	737-200-020	18.5
	737-220-003	20.0
	737-280-003	30.3
CM & S	755-070-005	87.0
	755-070-008	60.0
	755-100-001	40.6
Kelsey	737-020-025	28.1
	737-020-026	4.7
	737-020-027	1.6
	737-020-028	15.2

DY (cont.)

737-020-029	0.3
737-020-030	3.8
737-020-031	21.1
	3,324.0



JAN 0 8 2007

Kimberly Yang
1000 S Westgate Ave Apt 417
Los Angeles, CA 90049-5960

January 3, 2007

Dale K Hoffman-Floerke, DWR
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke:

I am writing to offer my comments on the Resources Agency's Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report for the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program (PEIR).

There is no question that the State of California must take action at the Salton Sea. A shrinking Salton Sea will harm the health of children and adults in the Imperial and Coachella valleys by subjecting this population to hundreds of additional tons of dust that would blow, each year, off the exposed land. A smaller, saltier Sea would also be of little or no value to many of the 400 species of birds – sometimes numbering in the millions of individual birds – that currently use the Sea. With the loss of nearly 95% of California's wetlands, many of these birds will have no other place to go, leading to catastrophic losses that will be felt up and down the Pacific Flyway.

Most proposed alternatives suffer from massive construction and permitting requirements that would slow implementation, degrade air quality, and impose additional, unacceptable impacts over a wide area. In light of California's commitment to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions, it makes no sense to implement a project that requires massive amounts of energy to pump (and in some instances, treat) water, nor does it make sense to build massive dams or dikes that require thousands of truck trips each day, to move the tens of millions of cubic yards of rock needed for construction.

Fortunately, the PEIR contains the information and components necessary to piece together a successful plan from the proposed alternatives. Alternatives 1 and 2 provide important habitat to support many of the birds that currently use the Salton Sea. Alternative 4 offers a relatively low-cost, low-impact method to distribute water around much of the present shoreline and would provide additional habitat, shoreline protection and opportunities for recreation. The concentric lakes plan would provide direct air quality benefits, and would also offer a ready source of water for managing air quality problem areas that might arise in the future. And components of the larger north lake alternatives (Alternatives 5-7) provide recreation and economic development opportunities, enjoying the broad local support necessary for funding and implementation.

I urge that DWR combine the following features from the proposed alternatives into a final, preferred alternative that would meet the legal requirements for restoration of the Sea:

- Between 38,000 – 50,000 acres of Shallow Saline Habitat Complex, as described in Alternatives 1 and 2, at the southern and northern ends of the Sea to provide habitat for shoreline species;
- Create concentric rings using geotubes or other dirt-filled barriers, as described in Alternative 4, to provide additional shallow habitat, deeper marine habitat, shoreline and view protection, air-quality protections, and recreation;
- Similar to the lakes found in Alternatives 5-7, provide a large (approximately 10,000 acre) North Lake, which would be the largest recreational lake in Southern California, fed by the Whitewater River to provide recreation and development opportunities without the costs and risks associated with a major mid-Sea barrier or the costs of pumping water from the southern end of the Sea;

KY-1

Kimberly Yang (KY)

KY-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

The 62,000-acre Saline Habitat Complex included in the Preferred Alternative would be located in the southern and northern portion of the Salton Sea and would provide habitat for a variety of avian species such as shorebirds, waterfowl, and potentially for fish-eating birds, including sensitive species currently found at the Salton Sea. It is expected that the Saline Habitat Complex would also provide limited habitat for some fish species, such as tilapia, and thus, provide foraging habitat for fish-eating birds. The Saline Habitat Complex is expected to provide the microclimate benefits that currently exist at the Salton Sea, and could be constructed using a variety of construction methods including Geotubes®.

The 45,000-acre Marine Sea included in the Preferred Alternative would be located primarily in the northern portion of the Sea, but would extend down the majority of the eastern and western shorelines. It is intended to support a marine fishery and fish-eating birds (such as pelicans, double-crested cormorants, and black skimmers). The Marine Sea would stabilize at a water surface elevation of -230 feet msl with a salinity between 30,000 mg/L and 40,000 mg/L. The water depth would be less than 10 to 12 meters (39 feet) to reduce hydrogen sulfide generation and potential fish kills due to long-term temperature stratification (temperature variations from top to bottom of the sea).

KY (cont.)

The Preferred Alternative incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project. These measures include the allocation of 0.5 acre-foot per acre of water to manage emissive areas of the Exposed Playa. The Preferred Alternative also includes actions and mitigation measures to reduce air quality impacts that could result from construction and operations and maintenance activities.

Although not a legislatively mandated objective, the Saline Habitat Complex is expected to allow for passive recreational opportunities, such as bird watching. Additionally, the Marine Sea would provide for water-based recreational opportunities that have historically occurred at the Salton Sea. This would include boating and fishing opportunities and allow for the ongoing operation of the majority of the existing harbors at the Salton Sea.

The Preferred Alternative also includes a variety of actions that could be implemented within the 5-year timeframe after the Legislature provides direction on implementing of a restoration program and identifies a future implementing agency. These actions include activities such as Early Start Habitat and measures targeted to address air quality uncertainties.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

JAN 0 8 2007

- Provide at least one-half acre-foot of water per acre of exposed Seabed, as stipulated by the Salton Sea Advisory Committee, to prevent dust pollution caused by exposed playa, as described in Alternatives 1-3, 5-6 and 8;
- Construct shallow saline habitat (known as "early start habitat") immediately to provide resources for birds during the long permitting and construction process, as described in all of the proposed alternatives; and
- Develop a plan that provides water for habitat and air quality mitigation first, in case of possible shortages or system malfunctions, as described in Alternatives 1-3.

A Final Preferred Alternative that contains all of these components, each of which is present and analyzed in one or more of the draft alternatives, would best meet the legal requirements to maximize habitat, air quality and water quality, while also providing substantial recreation and development opportunities.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Yang

KY-1 cont.

KY (cont.)

Choose Best Future California Water Resource and Environmental Value

Re: "On the waterfront", Editorials, Jan, 2

The 180 square mile area of the combined north and south salty recreational lakes of the Salton Sea Authority's "locally preferred project" plan would require 690,000 acre-feet per year from brackish agricultural drainage to replace evaporation losses. Past tests proved that this same agricultural drainage can be converted to fresh water suitable for irrigation for about $300 per acre-foot. Reusing this converted water locally for Imperial Valley agriculture would save an equivalent amount of Colorado River water that could be transferred through existing infrastructure for potable use elsewhere in California. This new potable source would serve the needs of 5.5 million Californians, the increase in our population projected over the next 10 years, with little change to existing infrastructure.

In the not so distant future, California's only option to meet new fresh water needs will be ocean water desalination which costs about $1200 per acre-foot, not including new infrastructure to deliver the desalinated water to inland users. Comparing $1200 to $300 to produce an acre-foot of new potable water reveals that the "locally preferred project" will cost, in relative terms, an additional $620 million of "California water resource value" every year to maintain the proposed Salton Sea recreational lakes. This is in addition to the initial $2 billion to build the lakes.

Consider also the additional California environmental impacts of this extra ocean water desalination capacity…concentrate waste discharged to the ocean, five times greater electricity demand, and new water distribution infrastructure construction. Add in the "steep environmental price" claimed in the Times editorial for construction of dams in the Salton Sea and a different picture emerges of the net environmental impact on California of the "locally preferred project".

The state legislatures's final selection should reflect the best long term water resource and environmental value for all California, not just local preferences.

Joe Zuback

Camarillo

Joe Zuback
zubackj@earthlink.net

JZ-1

JZ-2

Joe Zuback (JZ)

JZ-1

The Salton Sea Restoration Act (Fish and Game Code 2931(c)(1-3)) states that "the preferred alternative shall provide the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives: (1) Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea. (2) Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration projects. (3) Protection of water quality." The use of agricultural drainage water for irrigation for additional agricultural lands or potable sources is outside of the scope of the State's Draft PEIR.

JZ-2

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Jan 4, 2007

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

Please take whatever action you can to prevent the disappearance of the Salton Sea. The loss of the Salton Sea will not only harm the health of communities in the surrounding Imperial and Coachella Valleys by affecting air and water quality, but it will also harm an important migratory bird stopover in the Pacific Flyway.

Hundreds of bird species depend on the Salton Sea will have no other place to go.

Sincerely,

Valerie Zachary
PO Box 6656
Los Osos, CA 93412-6656

VZ-1

Valerie Zachary (VZ)

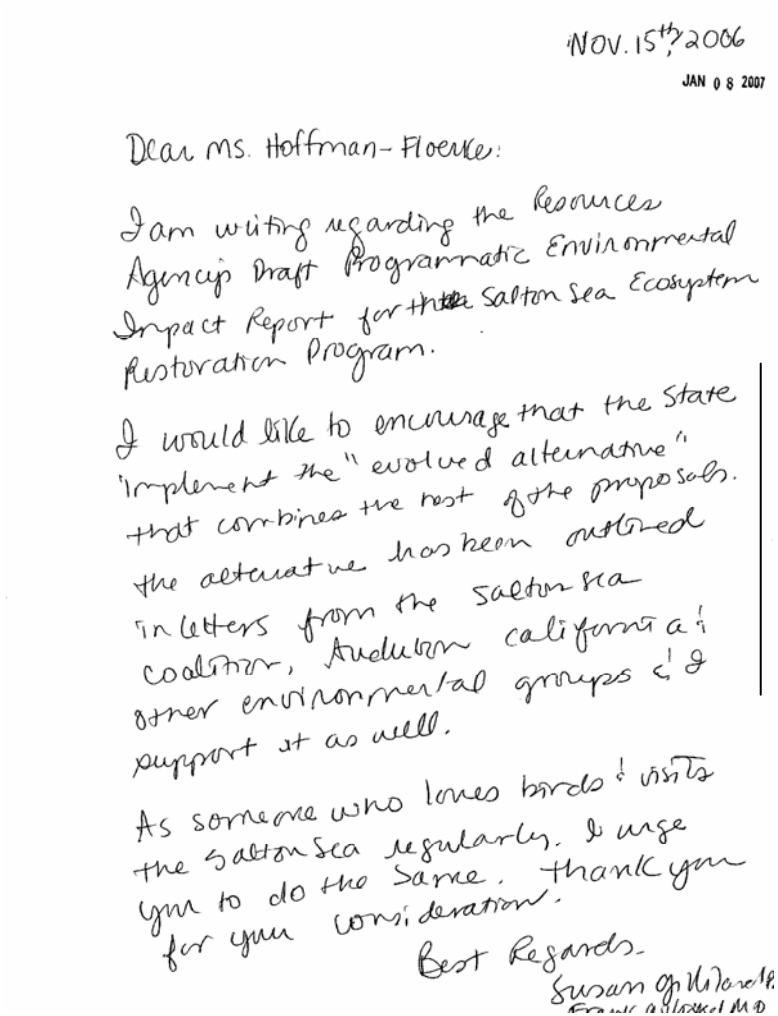
VZ-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.



NOV. 15th, 2006

JAN 0 8 2007

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke:

I am writing regarding the Resources Agencies Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report for the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program.

I would like to encourage that the State 'implement the" evolved alternative" that combines the rest of the proposals. the alternative has been outlined in letters from the Salton Sea coalition, Audubon California & other environmental groups & I support it as well.

As someone who loves birds & visits the Salton Sea regularly. I urge you to do the same. thank you for your consideration.

Best Regards.

Susan and Frank MD

S&F-1

Susan and Frank (S&F)

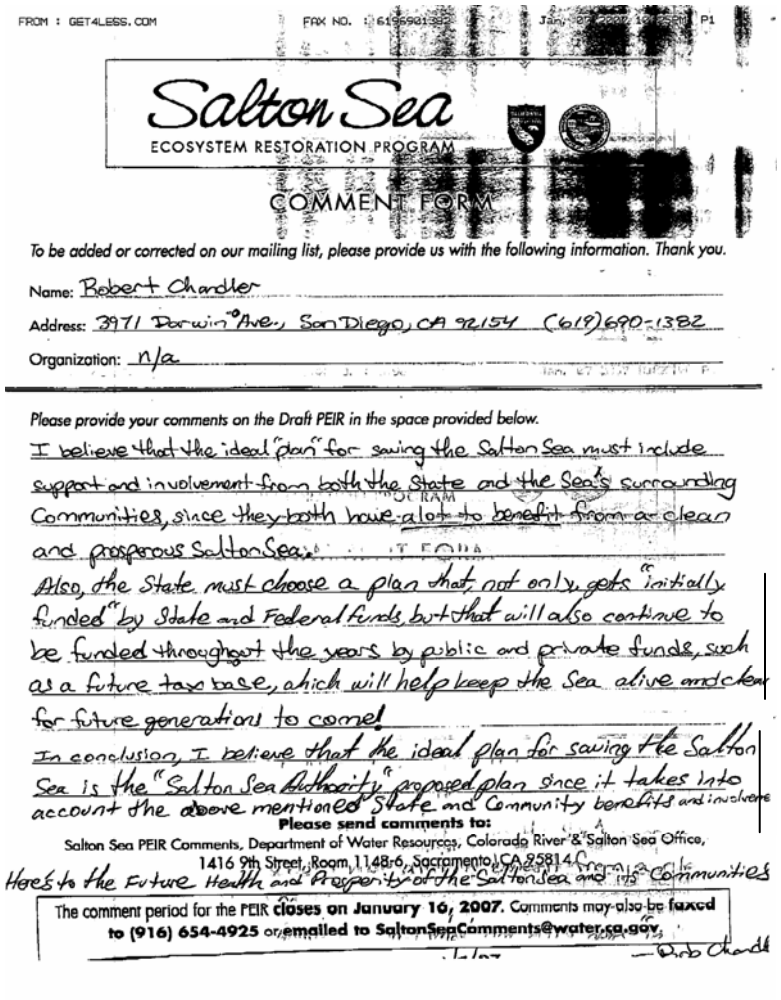
S&F-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.



FROM : GET4LESS.COM FAX NO. : 6195991382 Jan. 0 P1

Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: Robert Chandler

Address: 3971 Darwin Ave., San Diego, CA 92154 (619)690-1382

Organization: n/a

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

I believe that the ideal "plan" for saving the Salton Sea must include support and involvement from both the State and the Sea's surrounding Communities, since they both have alot to benefit from a clean and prosperous Salton Sea.

Also, the State must choose a plan that, not only, gets "initially funded" by State and Federal funds, but that will also continue to be funded throughout the years by public and private funds, such as a future tax base, which will help keep the Sea alive and clean for future generations to come!

In conclusion, I believe that the ideal plan for saving the Salton Sea is the "Salton Sea Authority" proposed plan since it takes into account the above mentioned State and Community benefits and involvement.

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office,
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

Here's to the Future Health and Prosperity of the Salton Sea and its Communities

The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007.** Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov.**

— Rob Chandl

RChandler-1

RChandler-2

Robert Chandler (RChandler)

RChandler-1

Project funding is outside of the scope of the Draft PEIR. However, as required by the project's legislative mandates, a Funding Plan has been prepared for the Preferred Alternative. This Funding Plan identifies a variety of potential sources of funding for restoration actions at the Salton Sea. The Funding Plan and potential funding sources would be more appropriately considered by the Legislature when it provides direction on implementing of a restoration program and identifies a future implementing agency.

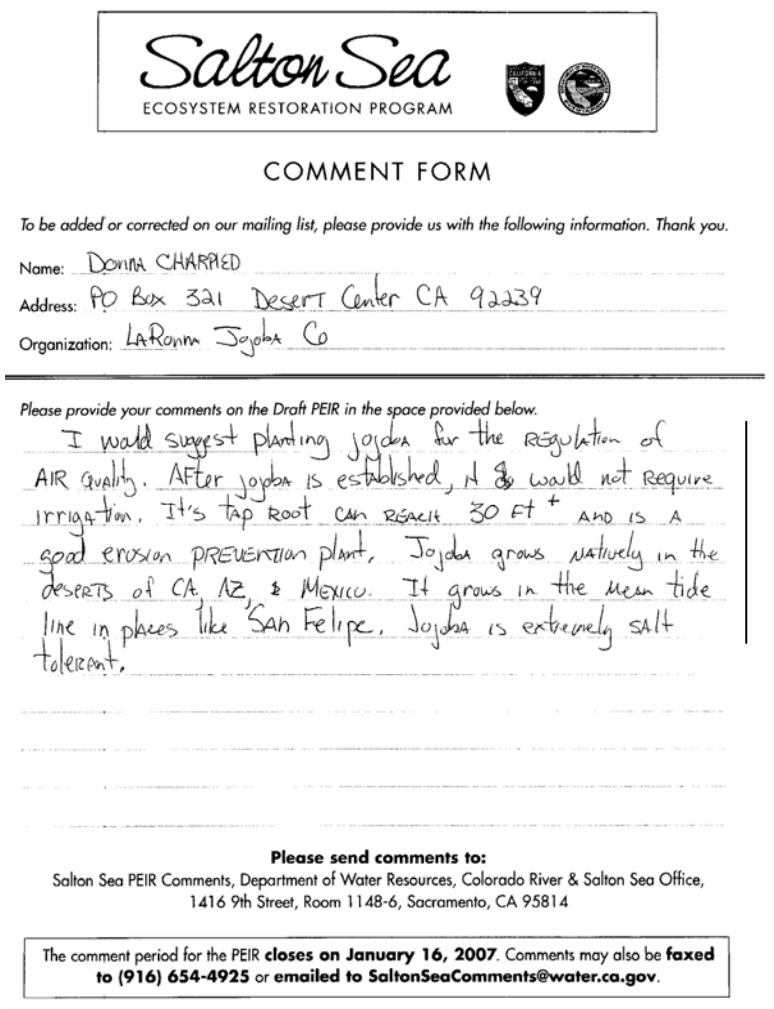
RChandler-2

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.



Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: Donna CHARPIED
Address: PO Box 321 Desert Center CA 92239
Organization: LaRonna Jojoba Co

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

I would suggest planting jojoba for the regulation of AIR Quality. After jojoba is established, it would not require irrigation. It's tap root can reach 30 ft + and is a good erosion prevention plant. Jojoba grows natively in the deserts of CA, AZ, & Mexico. It grows in the mean tide line in places like San Felipe. Jojoba is extremely salt tolerant.

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office,
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

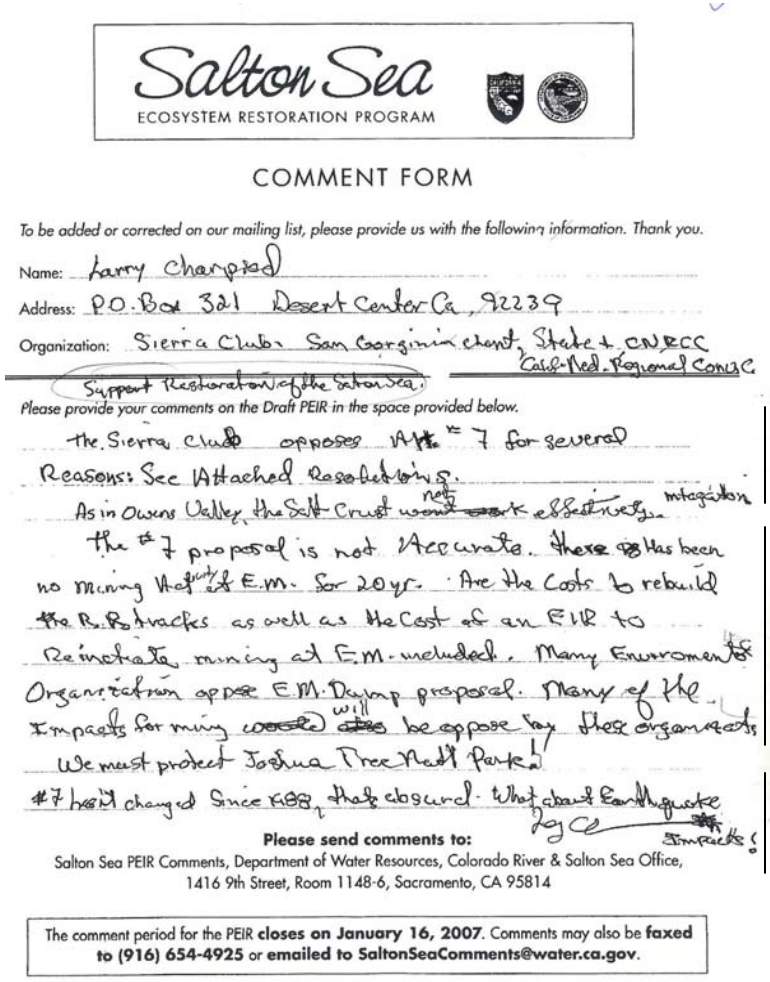
The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

DCharpied-1

Donna Charpied (DCharpied)

DCharpied-1

Thank you for your suggestion. The use of jojoba as a water efficient vegetation for air quality control actions could be considered during future project-level analysis.



Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: Larry Charpied

Address: P.O. Box 321 Desert Center Ca, 92239

Organization: Sierra Club - San Gorgonio chapt, State + CNRCC Calif-Ned. Regional Comm.

Support Restoration of the Salton Sea.

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

The Sierra Club opposes Alt. # 7 for several Reasons: See Attached Resolutions.

As in Owens Valley, the Salt Crust won't work effectively. mitigation

The #7 proposal is not Accurate. There has been no mining that of E.M. for 20 yr. Are the Costs to rebuild the R.R. tracks as well as the Cost of an EIR to Reinstate mining at E.M. included. Many Environmental Organizations oppose E.M. Dump proposal. Many of the Impacts for mining will be oppose by these organizations We must protect Joshua Tree Nat'l Park!

#7 hasn't changed Since 1998, that's obscene. What about Earthquake Impacts?

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office,
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

LCharpied-1

LCharpied-1

LCharpied-1

Larry Charpied (LCharpied)

LCharpied-1

The protection of public health would be an important component of any restoration alternative for the Salton Sea. As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project. These measures include the allocation of 0.5 acre-foot per acre of water to manage emissive areas of the Exposed Playa. The Preferred Alternative also includes actions and mitigation measures to reduce air quality impacts that could result from construction and operations and maintenance activities.

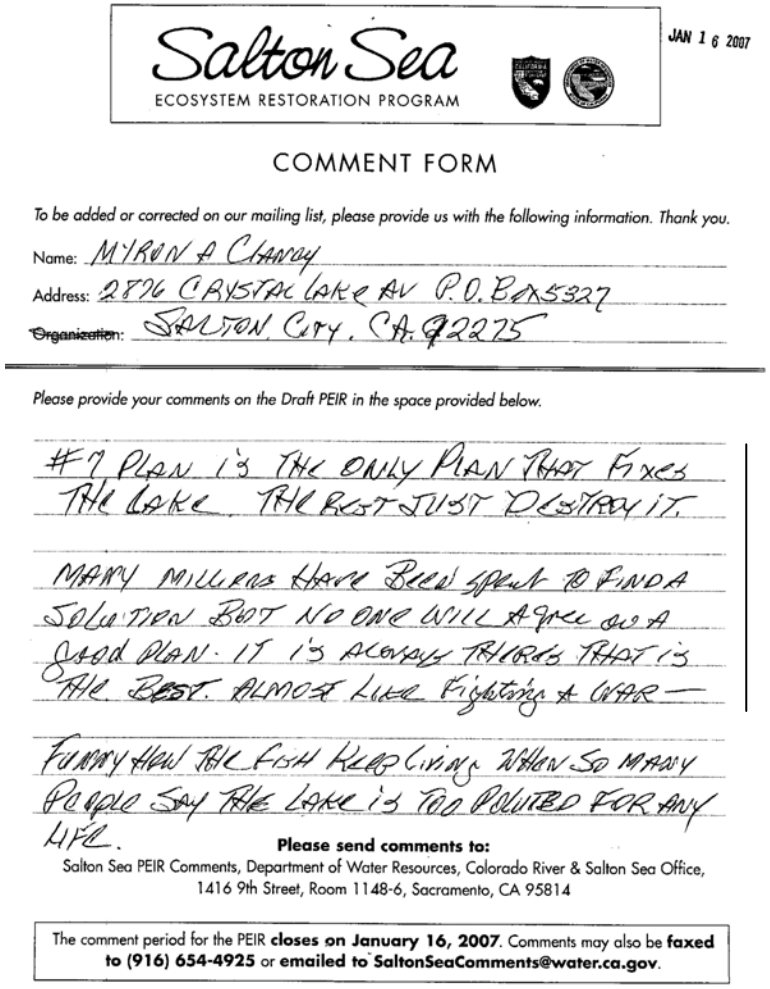
The Preferred Alternative also includes a variety of actions that could be implemented within the 5-year timeframe after the Legislature provides direction on implementing of a restoration program and identifies a future implementing agency. These actions include activities to address air quality uncertainties.

LCharpied-2

For the programmatic level of planning, the availability of quarry materials for construction was evaluated by looking at potential sites including permitted and non-permitted quarries. A cursory evaluation of potential rockfill sources was performed in the Draft PEIR. The evaluation considered issues such as land ownership and access, environmental impacts and potential mitigation actions, as well as rock suitability. Information to determine site specific impacts at all potential sites was not available. Project-level analysis of the Preferred Alternative and rockfill sources would be required to evaluate the extent and magnitude of direct and indirect impacts and identify appropriate mitigation.

LCharpied-3

The potential for loss of life or property due to failure of a facility due to an earthquake or related seismic event was described in Chapter 9 of the Draft PEIR. As identified in Chapter 9, all of the alternatives could result in significant impacts due to the potential risk to workers and others during seismic events. However, Next Steps were identified that include construction of facilities in accordance with the California Building Code and applicable design standards to reduce the risk of loss due to seismic events.



Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

JAN 16 2007

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: MYRON A CLANCY
Address: 2876 CRYSTAL LAKE AV P.O. BOX 5327
~~Organization~~: SALTON CITY, CA. 92275

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

#7 PLAN IS THE ONLY PLAN THAT FIXES THE LAKE. THE REST JUST DESTROY IT.

MANY MILLIONS HAVE BEEN SPENT TO FIND A SOLUTION BUT NO ONE WILL AGREE ON A GOOD PLAN. IT IS ALREADY THREE YEARS THAT IS THE BEST. ALMOST LIKE FIGHTING A WAR—

FUNNY HOW THE FISH KEEP LIVING WHEN SO MANY PEOPLE SAY THE LAKE IS TOO POLUTED FOR ANY LIFE.

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office,
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

MClancy-1

Myron Clancy (MClancy)

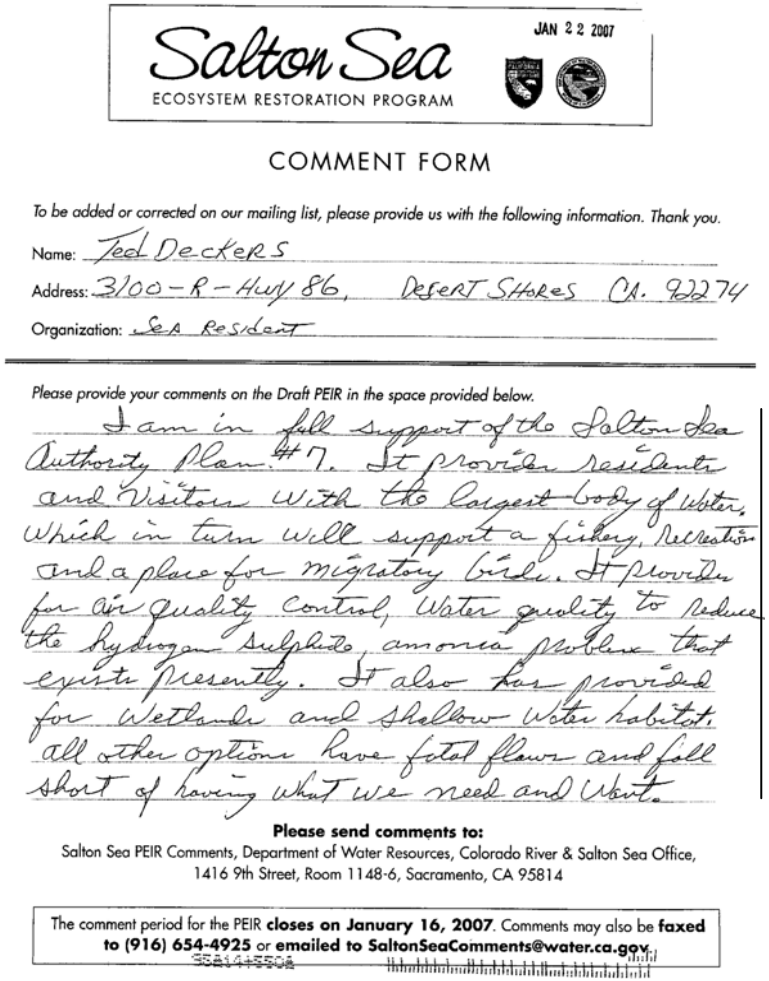
MClancy-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.



Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

JAN 22 2007

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: Ted DeckerS

Address: 3100-R-Hwy 86, Desert Shores CA. 92274

Organization: SEA Resident

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

I am in full support of the Salton Sea Authority Plan #7. It provides residents and visitors with the largest body of water, which in turn will support a fishery, recreation and a place for migratory birds. It provides for air quality control, water quality to reduce the hydrogen sulphide, amonia problems that exists presently. It also has provided for wetlands and shallow water habitat. all other options have fatal flaws and fall short of having what we need and want.

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office,
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

TDeckers-1

Ted Deckers (TDeckers)

TDeckers-1

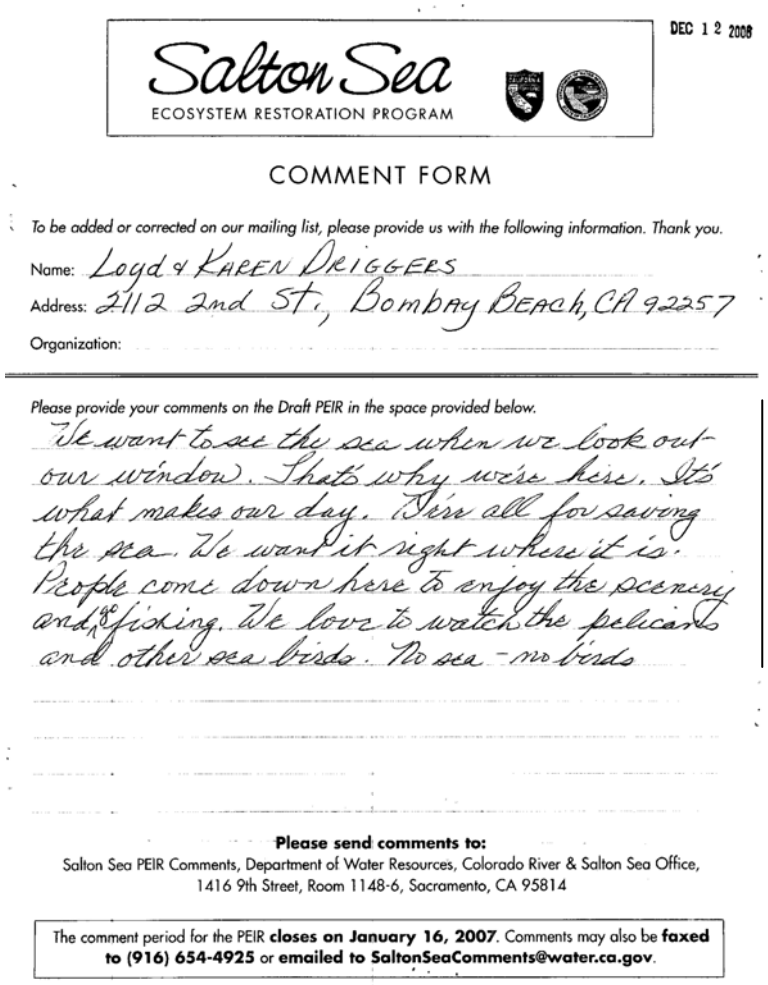
As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

Although not a legislatively mandated objective, the Saline Habitat Complex is expected to allow for passive recreational opportunities, such as bird watching. Additionally, the Marine Sea would provide for water-based recreational opportunities that have historically occurred at the Salton Sea. This would include boating and fishing opportunities and allow for the ongoing operation of the majority of the existing harbors at the Salton Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.



Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

DEC 12 2006

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: Loyd & Karen Driggers

Address: 2112 2nd St., Bombay Beach, CA 92257

Organization:

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

We want to see the sea when we look out our window. That's why we're here. It's what makes our day. We're all for saving the sea. We want it right where it is. People come down here to enjoy the scenery and fishing. We love to watch the pelicans and other sea birds. No sea - no birds

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office,
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

LDriggers-1

Loyd and Karen Driggers (LDriggers)

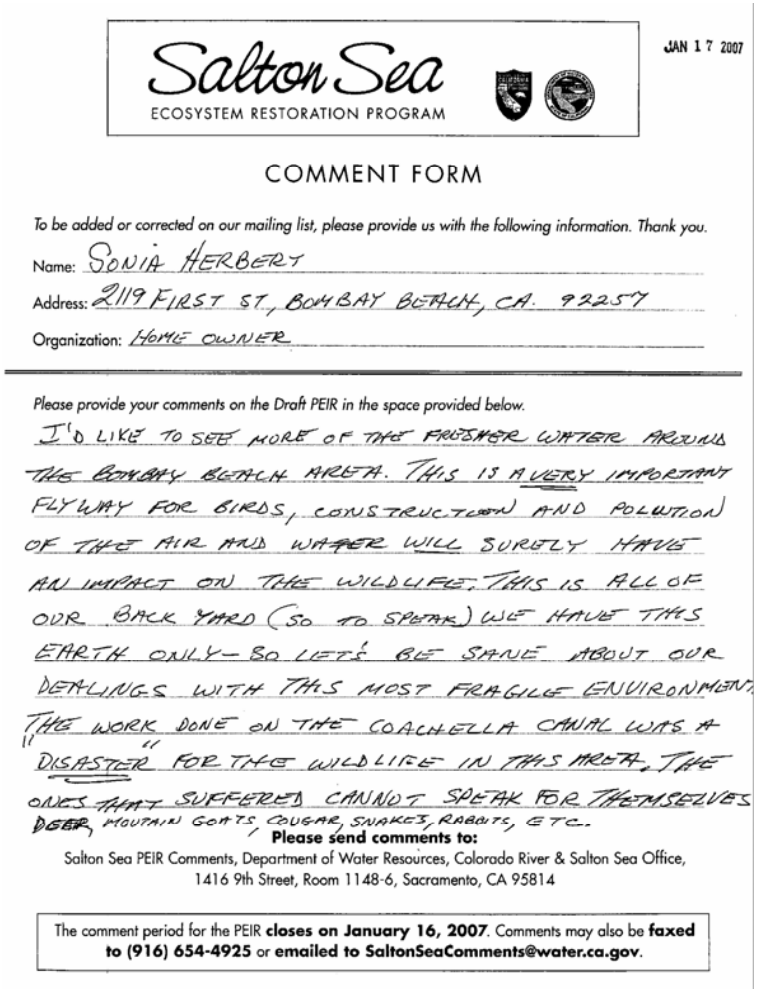
LDriggers-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.



Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

JAN 17 2007

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: SONIA HERBERT

Address: 2119 FIRST ST, BOMBAY BEACH, CA. 92257

Organization: HOME OWNER

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

I'D LIKE TO SEE MORE OF THE FRESHER WATER AROUND THE BOMBAY BEACH AREA. THIS IS A VERY IMPORTANT FLYWAY FOR BIRDS, CONSTRUCTION AND POLUTION OF THE AIR AND WATER WILL SURELY HAVE AN IMPACT ON THE WILDLIFE. THIS IS ALL OF OUR BACK YARD (SO TO SPEAK) WE HAVE THIS EARTH ONLY — SO LETS BE SANE ABOUT OUR DEALINGS WITH THIS MOST FRAGILE ENVIRONMENT. THE WORK DONE ON THE COACHELLA CANAL WAS A "DISASTER" FOR THE WILDLIFE IN THIS AREA. THE ONES THAT SUFFERED CANNOT SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES DEER, MOUTAIN GOATS, COUGAR, SNAKES, RABBITS, ETC.

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office,
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

SHerbert-1

Sonia Herbert (SHerbert)

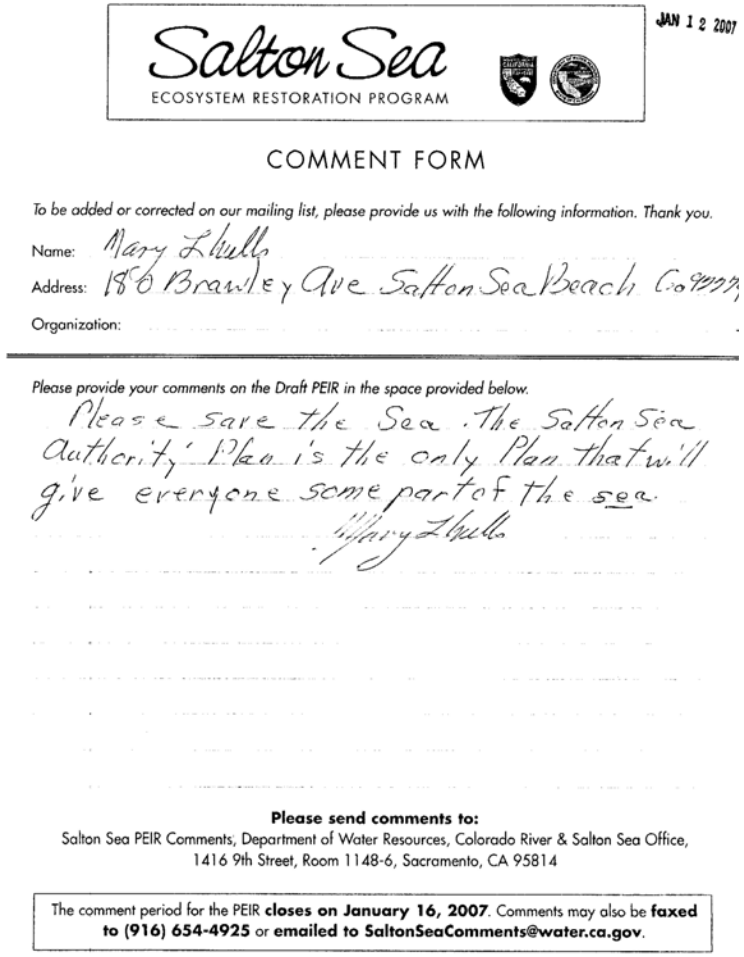
SHerbert-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.



Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

JAN 12 2007

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: Mary Lhulls
Address: 186 Brawley Ave Salton Sea Beach Ca 92271
Organization:

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

Please save the Sea. The Salton Sea Authority's Plan is the only Plan that will give everyone some part of the sea.
Mary Lhulls

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office,
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

MHulls-1

Mary Hulls (MHulls)

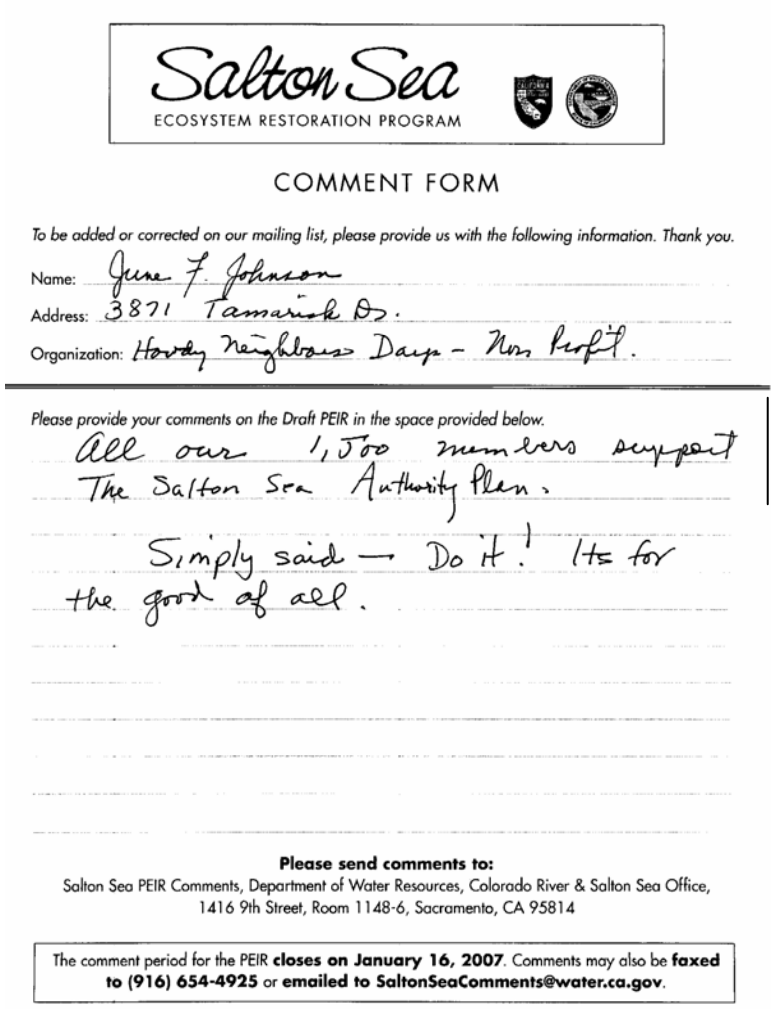
MHulls-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.



Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: June F. Johnson
Address: 3871 Tamarisk Dr.
Organization: Hardy Neighbors Days - Non Profit.

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

All our 1,500 members support The Salton Sea Authority Plan.

Simply said — Do it! Its for the good of all.

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office,
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

JJohnson-1

June Johnson (JJohnson)

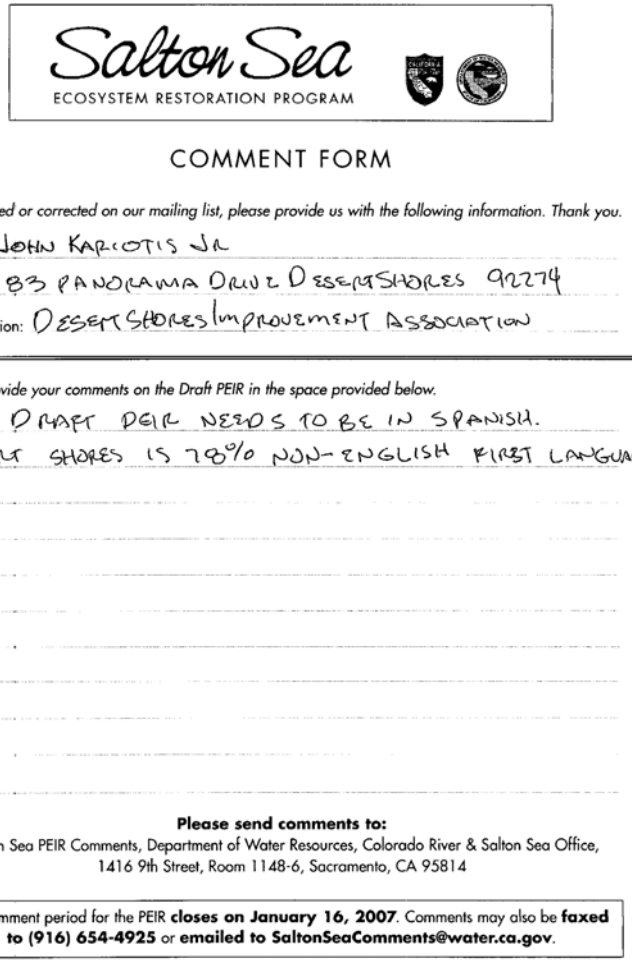
JJohnson-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.



Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: JOHN KARIOTIS JR

Address: 83 PANORAMA DRIVE DESERT SHORES 92274

Organization: DESERT SHORES IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

THE DRAFT PEIR NEEDS TO BE IN SPANISH.
DESERT SHORES IS 78% NON-ENGLISH FIRST LANGUAGE.

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office,
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

JKariotis-1

John Kariotis, Jr (JKariotis)

JKariotis-1

Very early on in the State's process, a number of documents, including the Notice of Preparation were translated in Spanish. The Resources Agency provided these documents at public outreach meetings in the Salton Sea watershed, and made these documents available on the State's Salton Sea website. After public release of the document, Spanish language versions of both a Frequently Asked Questions Sheet and Fact Sheet were made available and a contact phone number of a State Team member that would be able to answer questions in Spanish was provided for those interested.

Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: Thomas McKinney

Address: Ave O

Organization: Business & property owner

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

There seams by all the information provided that, many ideas have been left out, #1 why not invest in a canal system that supplys water (fresh) into the north end of the sea & an outlet back into the canal at the southern end, not endangering any species @ low cost no dust from the playa (beach) & increase the property values instead of lowering them.

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office,
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

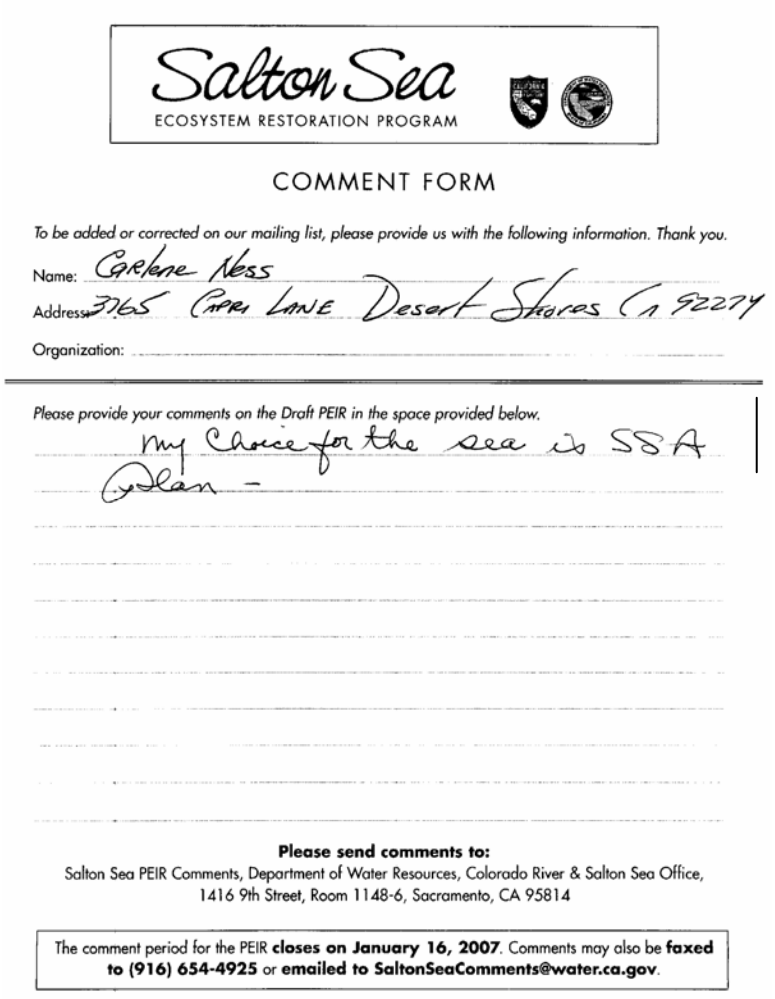
The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

TMckiney-1

Thomas McKiney (TMcKIney)

TMcKiney-1

Alternatives that maintain the whole Salton Sea, including the importation of water from the Gulf of California were described in Chapter 2 of the Draft PEIR. As discussed in Chapter 2, this alternative was considered but was not carried forward in the Draft. The importation of water from the Gulf of California was not carried forward because the alternative does not meet the CEQA requirement for feasibility as the State would not legally be able to control or have access to the portion of the project that would be located in the Republic of Mexico.



Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: Carlene Ness

Address: 3765 Capri Lane Desert Shores Ca 92274

Organization:

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

my Choice for the sea is SSA
Plan -

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office,
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

CNess-1

Carlene Ness (CNess)

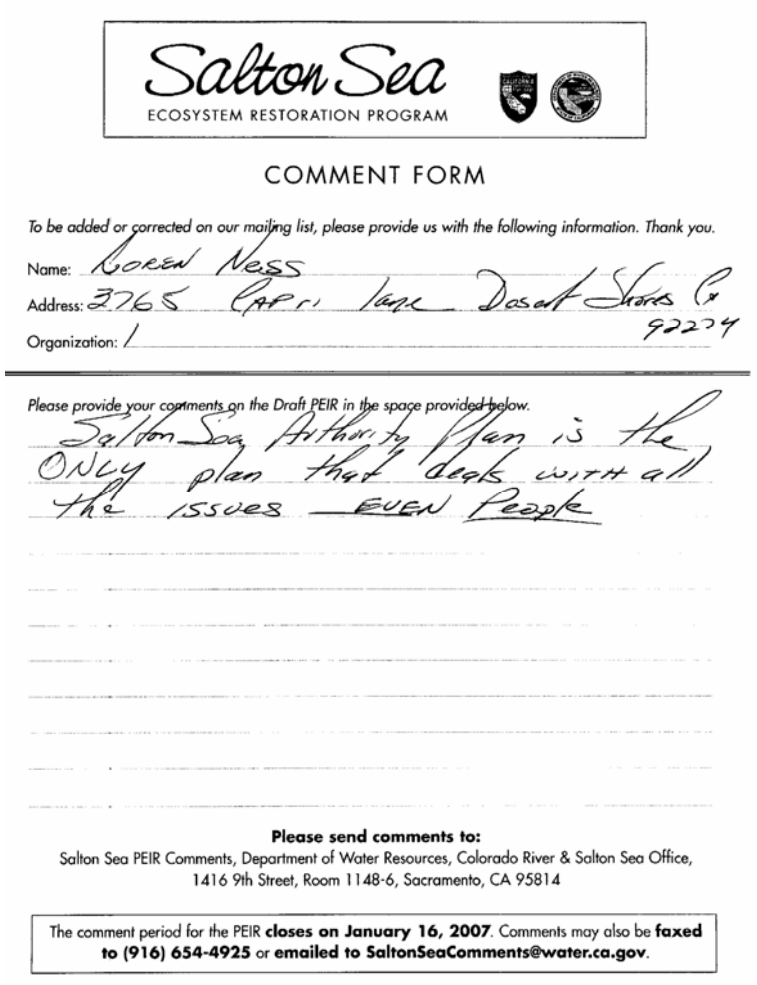
CNess-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.



Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: Loren Ness

Address: 3765 Capri Lane Desert Shores Ca 92274

Organization: /

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

Salton Sea Authority Plan is the ONLY plan that deals with all the issues — EVEN People

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office,
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

LNess-1

Loren Ness (LNess)

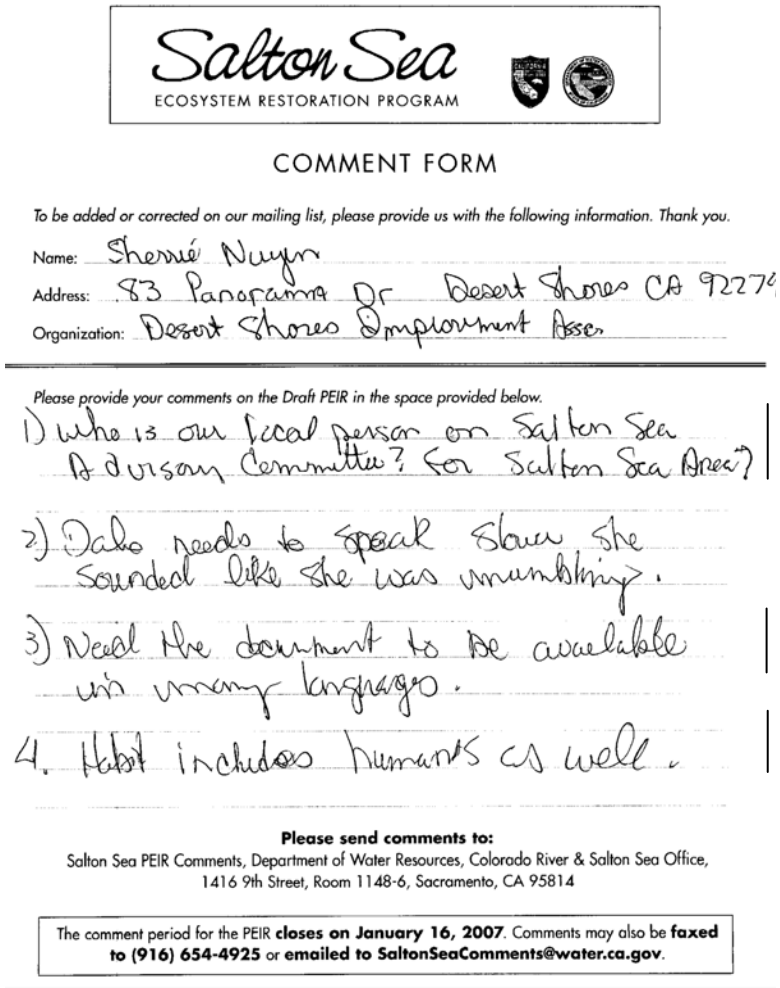
LNess-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.



Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: Sherrié Nuyen
Address: 83 Panorama Dr Desert Shores CA 92274
Organization: Desert Shores Employment Assc.

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

1) Who is our local person on Salton Sea Advisory Committee? For Salton Sea Area?

2) Dalai needs to speak slower she sounded like she was mumbling.

3) Need the document to be available in many languages.

4. Habit includes humans as well.

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office,
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

SNuyen-1

SNuyen-2

SNuyen-3

Sherrie Nuyen (SNuyen)

SNuyen-1

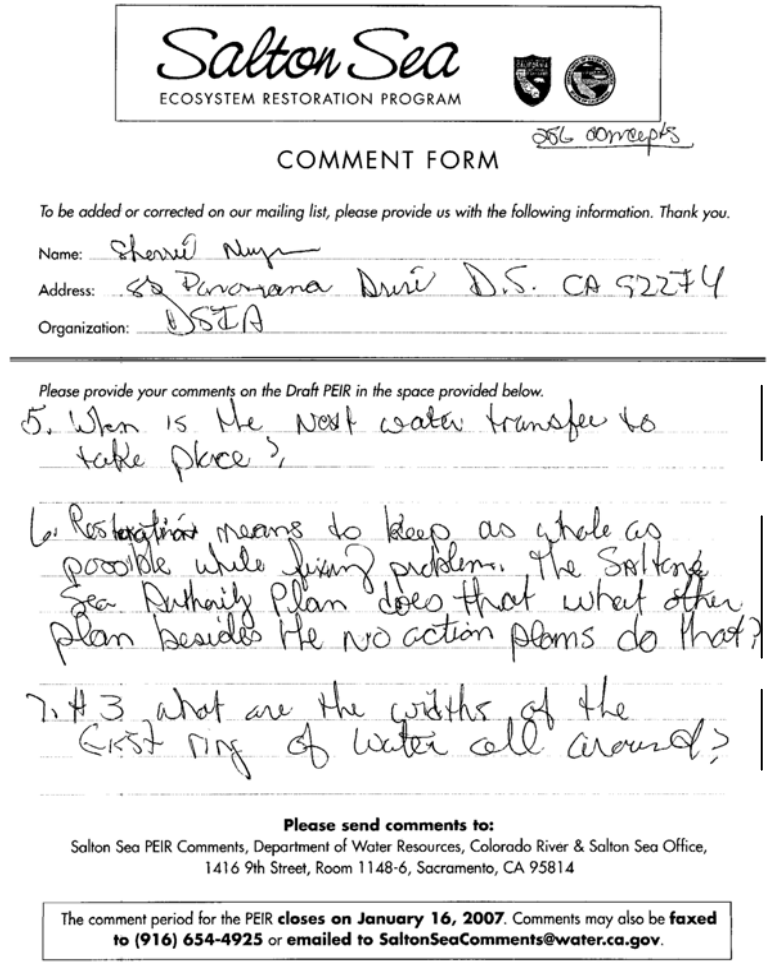
The Salton Sea Advisory Committee members are listed in Table 1-1 on page 1-15 of the Draft PEIR.

SNuyen-2

Very early on in the State's process, a number of documents, including the Notice of Preparation were translated in Spanish. The Resources Agency provided these documents at public outreach meetings in the Salton Sea watershed, and made these documents available on the State's Salton Sea website. After public release of the document, Spanish language versions of both a Frequently Asked Questions Sheet and Fact Sheet were made available and a contact phone number of a State Team member that would be able to answer questions in Spanish was provided for those interested.

SNuyen-3

The Resources Agency has a statutory mandate to prepare a programmatic environmental document and a restoration study and to determine a preferred alternative for the restoration of the Salton Sea ecosystem and the protection of wildlife dependent on that ecosystem (see Fish and Game Code Section 2081.7). The Salton Sea Restoration Act (Fish and Game Code 2931(c)(1-3)) states that "the preferred alternative shall provide the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives: (1) Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea. (2) Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration projects. (3) Protection of water quality."



Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

256 comments

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: Steven Nuyen
Address: 80 Panorama Drive D.S. CA 92274
Organization: USIA

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

5. When is the next water transfer to take place?

6. Restoration means to keep as whole as possible while fixing problem. The Salton Sea Authority Plan does that what other plan besides the no action plans do that?

7. #3 what are the widths of the first ring of water all around?

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office,
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

SNuyen-4

SNuyen-5

SNuyen-6

SNuyen (cont.)

SNuyen-4

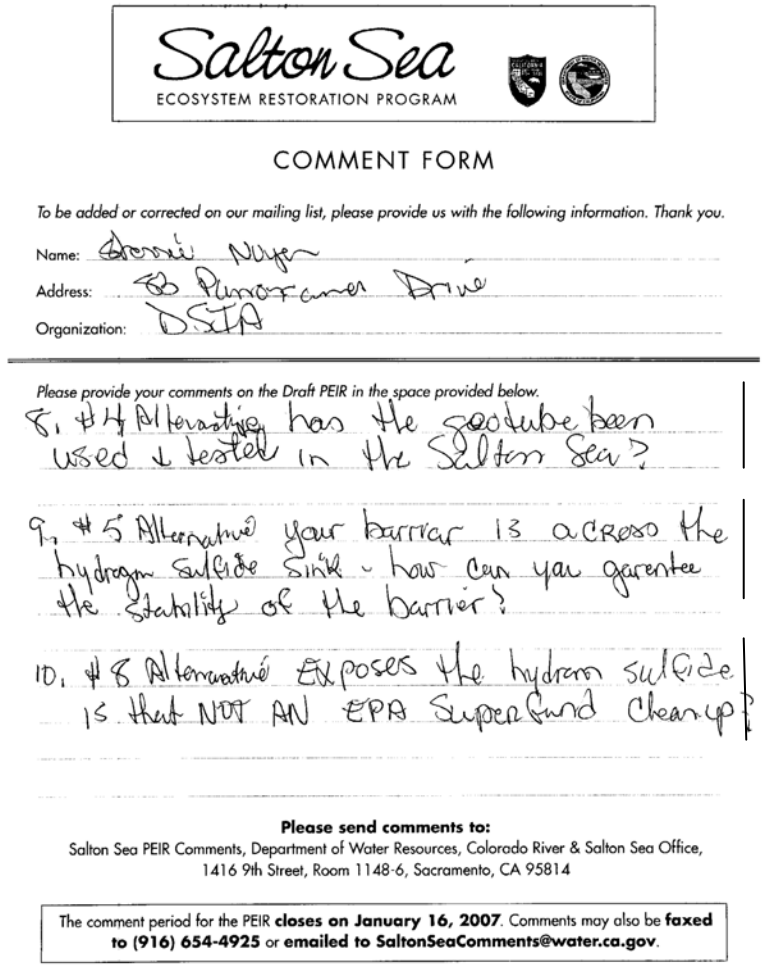
The Salton Sea Restoration Act (Fish and Game Code 2931(c)(1-3)) states that "the preferred alternative shall provide the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives: (1) Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea. (2) Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration projects. (3) Protection of water quality." As described in Chapter 1 of the Draft PEIR, the Salton Sea Restoration Act and related legislation facilities implementation of the Quantification Settlement Agreement and the Imperial Irrigation District Water Conservation and Transfer Project. Changes to the Quantification Settlement Agreement and the Imperial Irrigation District Water Conservation and Transfer Project are outside of the scope of the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program.

SNuyen-5

See response to comment SNuyen-3.

SNuyen-6

The comment is unclear regarding which ring or cell in which alternative the commenter is referring to. However, the width of the water bodies under each of the alternatives is provided in Chapter 11 of the Draft PEIR.



Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: Steven Nuyen
Address: 88 Plantation Drive
Organization: DSTA

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

8. #4 Alternative has the geotube been used & tested in the Salton Sea?

9. #5 Alternative your barrier is across the hydrogen sulfide sink - how can you garentee the stability of the barrier?

10. #8 Alternative EXposes the hydrogen sulfide is that NOT AN EPA Superfund Clean-up?

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office,
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

SNuyen-7

SNuyen-8

SNuyen-9

SNuyen (cont.)

SNuyen-7

Geotubes® have not been tested at the Salton Sea. Such testing could be conducted during future project-level analysis if Geotubes® are used in any restoration program.

SNuyen-8

The potential for loss of life or property due to failure of a facility due to an earthquake or related seismic event was described in Chapter 9 of the Draft PEIR. As identified in Chapter 9, all of the alternatives could result in significant impacts due to the potential risk to workers and others during seismic events. However, Next Steps were identified that include construction of facilities in accordance with the California Building Code and applicable design standards to reduce the risk of loss due to seismic events.

SNuyen-9

Chapter 14 of the Draft PEIR includes a discussion of hazards within the study area. Some potentially hazardous or contaminated areas have been identified in the project study area; however, the Salton Sea has not been designated as a Superfund site by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: Sherrie Nuyen

Address: 83 Pomorana Dr Desert Shores CA 92274

Organization: DSCA

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

11. Seeing as you were 4 months LATE in getting the PEIR out, why not put the correct information about #7 in? **SNuyen-10**

12. Public Support does that come from the Salton Sea Area? **SNuyen-11**

Alternative #7 helps with the humans & achieves the objectives of the Salton Sea Restoration Act. **SNuyen-12**

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office, 1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

SNuyen (cont.)

SNuyen-10

The Draft PEIR and the Final PEIR include a reasonable range of alternatives as required by CEQA and are based on the best available scientific information. Information from the SSA was used to develop Alternative 7, and the SSA's redesign of its proposal occurred after the Draft PEIR analysis was well underway. Although the SSA proposal has continued to evolve, the State's March 2006 information submittal deadline was necessary to complete the analysis and the Draft PEIR within a reasonable timeframe, particularly in view of the statutory deadlines for completion of the restoration study and programmatic environmental document.

Although the modifications to the SSA's alternative have not been included in either the Draft or Final PEIR, the modifications are within the range of alternatives and configurations evaluated in the Draft PEIR. The absence of these additional modifications in Alternative 7 did not preclude the alternative from being considered as part of a future restoration program, because these modifications could be considered during project-level analysis as mitigation measures.

SNuyen-11

As described in Chapter 26 of the Draft PEIR, the State conducted an extensive public outreach effort for the preparation of the Draft PEIR. As part of this effort, public outreach meetings were held in various locations throughout the Salton Sea watershed in an effort to increase participation by all members of the Salton Sea community. As described in Chapter 26 of the Draft PEIR, the 26 public outreach meetings held during the preparation of the Draft PEIR were attended by over 600 people. While some of the meeting attendees were from outside of the Salton Sea watershed, the State believes that the majority of the attendees were residents from the local communities.

SNuyen-12

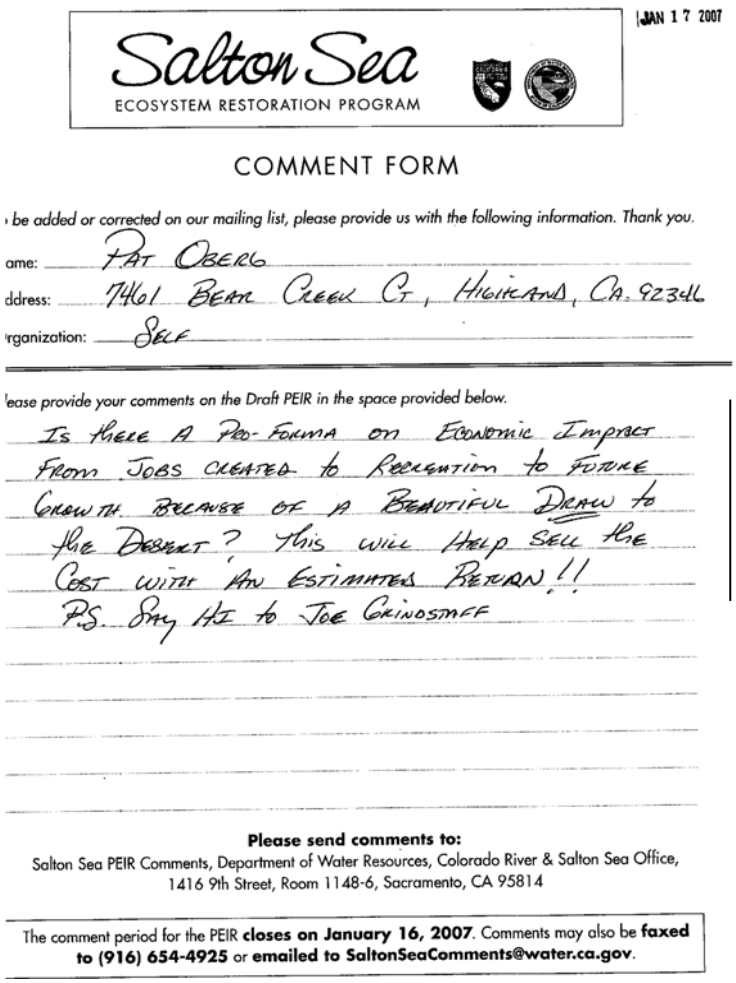
As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

SNuyen (cont.)

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.



Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

JAN 17 2007

COMMENT FORM

be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

ame: PAT OBERG

ddress: 7461 BEAR CREEK CT, HIGHLAND, CA. 92346

rganization: SELF

ease provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

IS THERE A PRO-FORMA ON ECONOMIC IMPACT FROM JOBS CREATED TO RECREATION TO FUTURE GROWTH BECAUSE OF A BEAUTIFUL DRAW TO THE DESERT? THIS WILL HELP SELL THE COST WITH AN ESTIMATED RETURN!!

P.S. SAY HI TO JOE GRINSTAFF

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office,
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

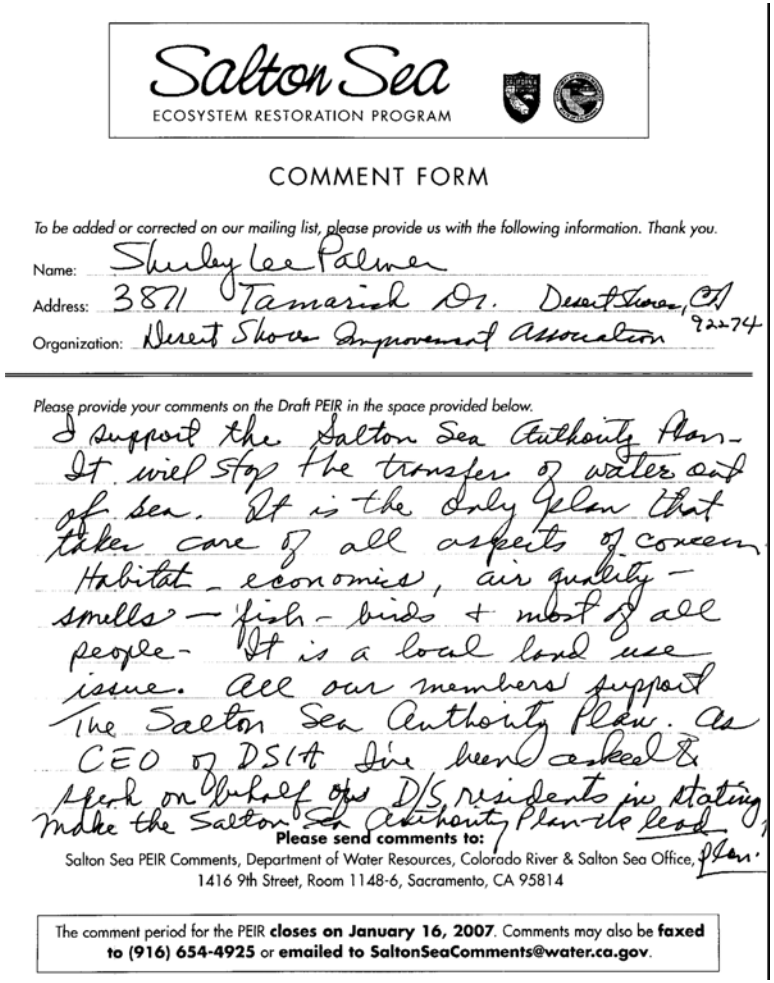
The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

POberg-1

Pat Oberg (POberg)

POberg-1

The Resources Agency has a statutory mandate to prepare a programmatic environmental document and a restoration study and to determine a preferred alternative for the restoration of the Salton Sea ecosystem and the protection of wildlife dependent on that ecosystem (see Fish and Game Code Section 2081.7). The Salton Sea Restoration Act (Fish and Game Code 2931(c)(1-3)) states that "the preferred alternative shall provide the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives: (1) Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea. (2) Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration projects. (3) Protection of water quality."



Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: Shirley Lee Palmer
Address: 3871 Tamarisk Dr. Desert Shores, CA 92274
Organization: Desert Shores Improvement Association

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

I support the Salton Sea Authority Plan - It will stop the transfer of water out of sea. It is the only plan that takes care of all aspects of concern Habitat - economics, air quality - smells - fish - birds + most of all people - It is a local land use issue. All our members support The Salton Sea Authority Plan. As CEO of DSID I've been asked to speak on behalf of our D/S residents in stating make the Salton Sea Authority Plan the lead plan.

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office,
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

SPalmer-1

Shirley Palmer (SPalmer)

SPalmer-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

The 62,000-acre Saline Habitat Complex included in the Preferred Alternative would be located in the southern and northern portion of the Salton Sea and would provide habitat for a variety of avian species such as shorebirds, waterfowl, and potentially for fish-eating birds, including sensitive species currently found at the Salton Sea. It is expected that the Saline Habitat Complex would also provide limited habitat for some fish species, such as tilapia, and thus, provide foraging habitat for fish-eating birds. The Saline Habitat Complex is expected to provide the microclimate benefits that currently exist at the Salton Sea, and could be constructed using a variety of construction methods including Geotubes®.

The 45,000-acre Marine Sea included in the Preferred Alternative would be located primarily in the northern portion of the Sea, but would extend down the majority of the eastern and western shorelines. It is intended to support a marine fishery and fish-eating birds (such as pelicans, double-crested cormorants, and black skimmers). The Marine Sea would stabilize at a water surface elevation of -230 feet msl with a salinity between 30,000 mg/L and 40,000 mg/L. The water depth would be less than 10 to 12 meters (39 feet) to reduce hydrogen sulfide generation and potential fish kills due to long-term temperature stratification (temperature variations from top to bottom of the sea).

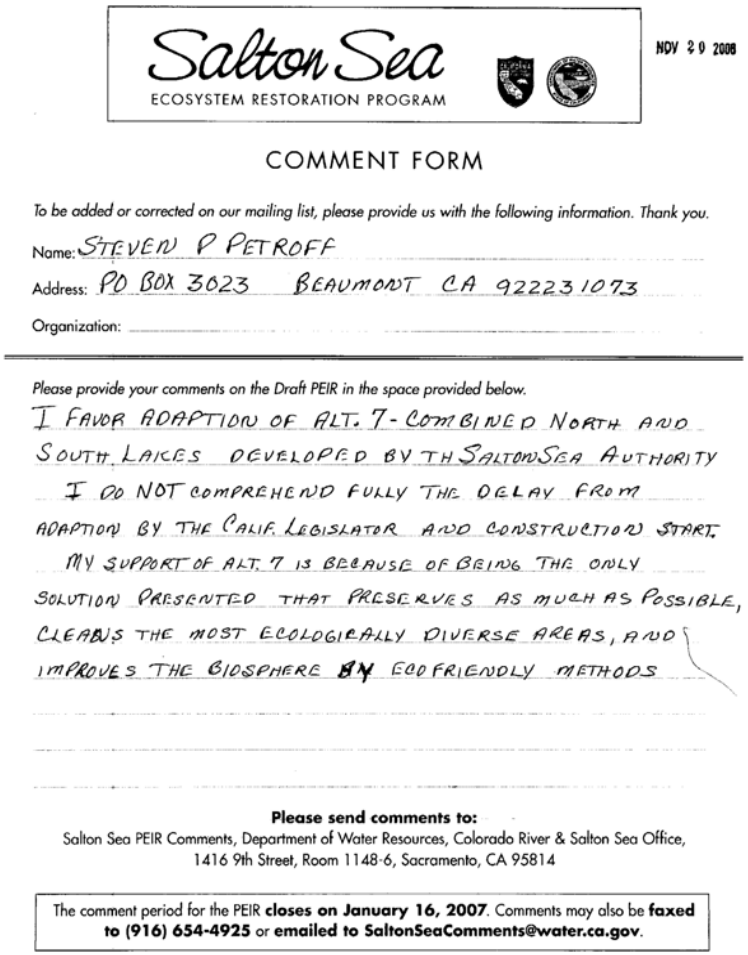
SPalmer (cont.)

The Preferred Alternative incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project. These measures include the allocation of 0.5 acre-foot per acre of water to manage emissive areas of the Exposed Playa. The Preferred Alternative also includes actions and mitigation measures to reduce air quality impacts that could result from construction and operations and maintenance activities.

Although not a legislatively mandated objective, the Saline Habitat Complex is expected to allow for passive recreational opportunities, such as bird watching. Additionally, the Marine Sea would provide for water-based recreational opportunities that have historically occurred at the Salton Sea. This would include boating and fishing opportunities and allow for the ongoing operation of the majority of the existing harbors at the Salton Sea.

The Preferred Alternative also includes a variety of actions that could be implemented within the 5-year timeframe after the Legislature provides direction on implementing of a restoration program and identifies a future implementing agency. These actions include activities such as Early Start Habitat and measures targeted to address air quality uncertainties.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.



Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

NOV 29 2006

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: STEVEN P PETROFF

Address: PO BOX 3023 BEAUMONT CA 922231073

Organization:

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

I FAVOR ADAPTION OF ALT. 7 - COMBINED NORTH AND SOUTH LAICES DEVELOPED BY TH SALTON SEA AUTHORITY

I DO NOT COMPREHEND FULLY THE DELAY FROM ADAPTION BY THE CALIF. LEGISLATOR AND CONSTRUCTION START.

MY SUPPORT OF ALT. 7 IS BECAUSE OF BEING THE ONLY SOLUTION PRESENTED THAT PRESERVES AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, CLEANS THE MOST ECOLOGICALLY DIVERSE AREAS, AND IMPROVES THE BIOSPHERE BY ECO FRIENDLY METHODS

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office,
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

SPetroff-1

SPetroff-2

SPetroff-3

Steven Petroff (SPetroff)

SPetroff-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

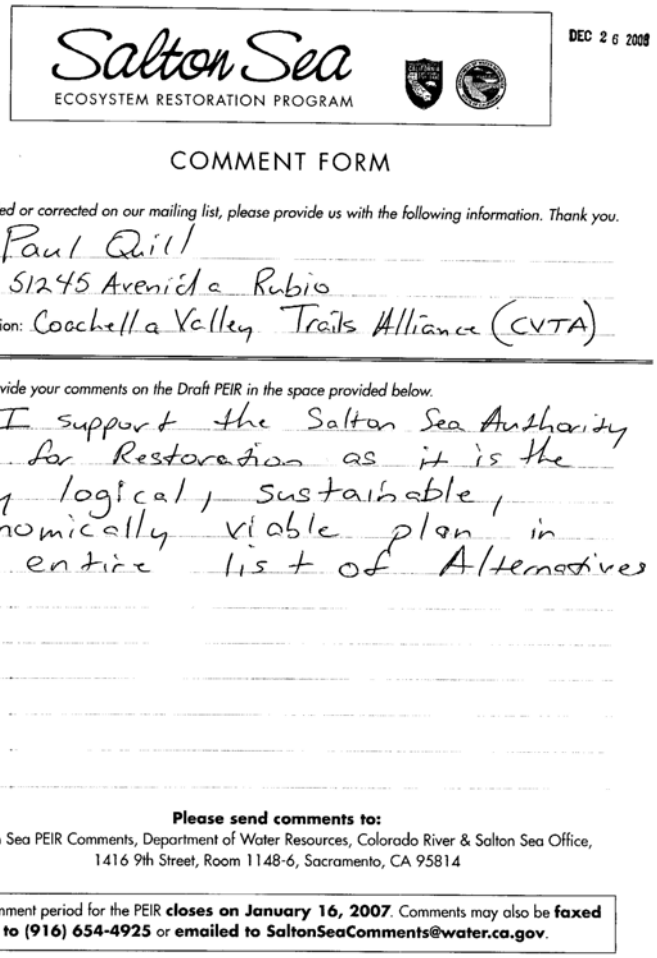
See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

SPetroff-2

As described in Chapter 3 and Chapter 25 of the Draft PEIR, a variety of studies are needed to complete the design and permitting process prior to the initiation of construction activities. These studies include such things as additional bathometric and topographic studies necessary for facilities design and additional biological, air quality, and cultural studies. The completion of these studies, design, and environmental compliance is expected to take some time.

SPetroff-3

See response to comment SPetroff-1.



Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

DEC 2 6 2006

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: Paul Quill

Address: 51245 Avenida Rubio

Organization: Coachella Valley Trails Alliance (CVTA)

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

I support the Salton Sea Authority Plan for Restoration as it is the only logical, sustainable, economically viable plan in the entire list of Alternatives

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office,
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

PQuill-1

Paul Quill (PQuill)

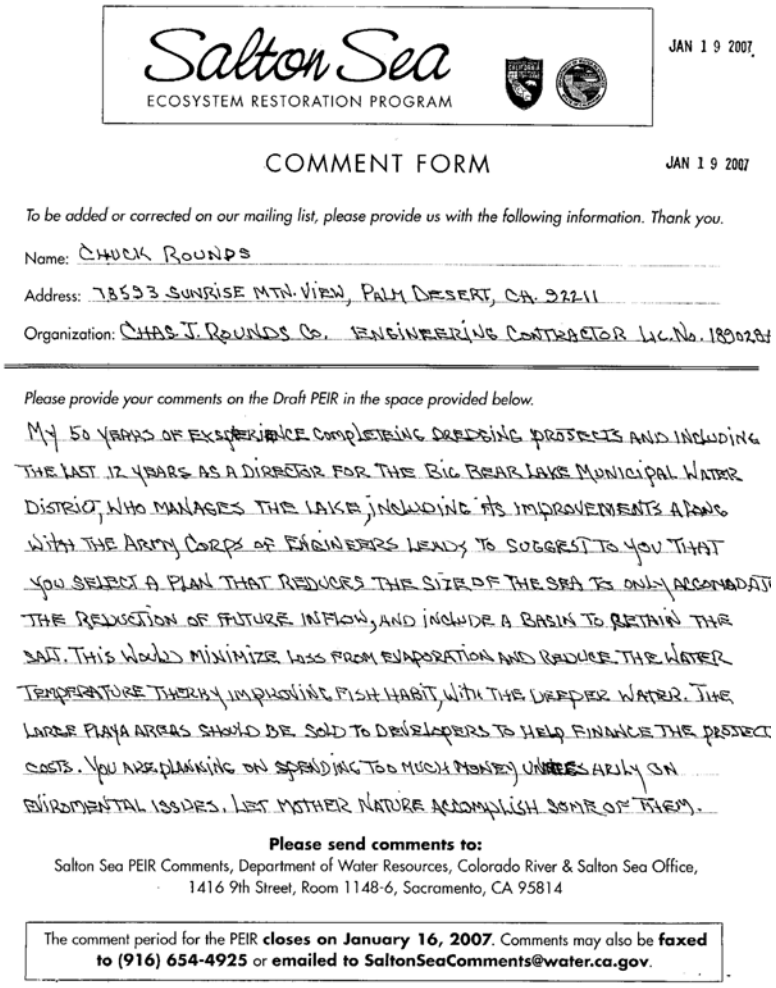
PQuill-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.



Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

JAN 19 2007

COMMENT FORM

JAN 19 2007

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: CHUCK ROUNDS

Address: 78593 SUNRISE MTN. VIEW, PALM DESERT, CA. 92211

Organization: CHAS. J. ROUNDS CO. ENGINEERING CONTRACTOR LIC.NO. 189028

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

MY 50 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE COMPLETEING DREDGING PROJECTS AND INCLUDING THE LAST 12 YEARS AS A DIRECTOR FOR THE BIG BEAR LAKE MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT, WHO MANAGES THE LAKE, INCLUDING ITS IMPROVEMENTS ALONG WITH THE ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS LEADS TO SUGGEST TO YOU THAT YOU SELECT A PLAN THAT REDUCES THE SIZE OF THE SEA TO ONLY ACCOMODATE THE REDUCTION OF FUTURE INFLOW, AND INCLUDE A BASIN TO RETAIN THE SALT. THIS WOULD MINIMIZE LOSS FROM EVAPORATION AND REDUCE THE WATER TEMPERATURE THERBY IMPROVING FISH HABIT, WITH THE DEEPER WATER. THE LARGE PLAYA AREAS SHOULD BE SOLD TO DEVELOPERS TO HELP FINANCE THE PROJECT COSTS. YOU ARE PLANNING ON SPENDING TOO MUCH MONEY UNNECESARILY ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES. LET MOTHER NATURE ACCOMPLISH SOME OF THEM.

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office,
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

CRound-1

Chuck Round (CRound)

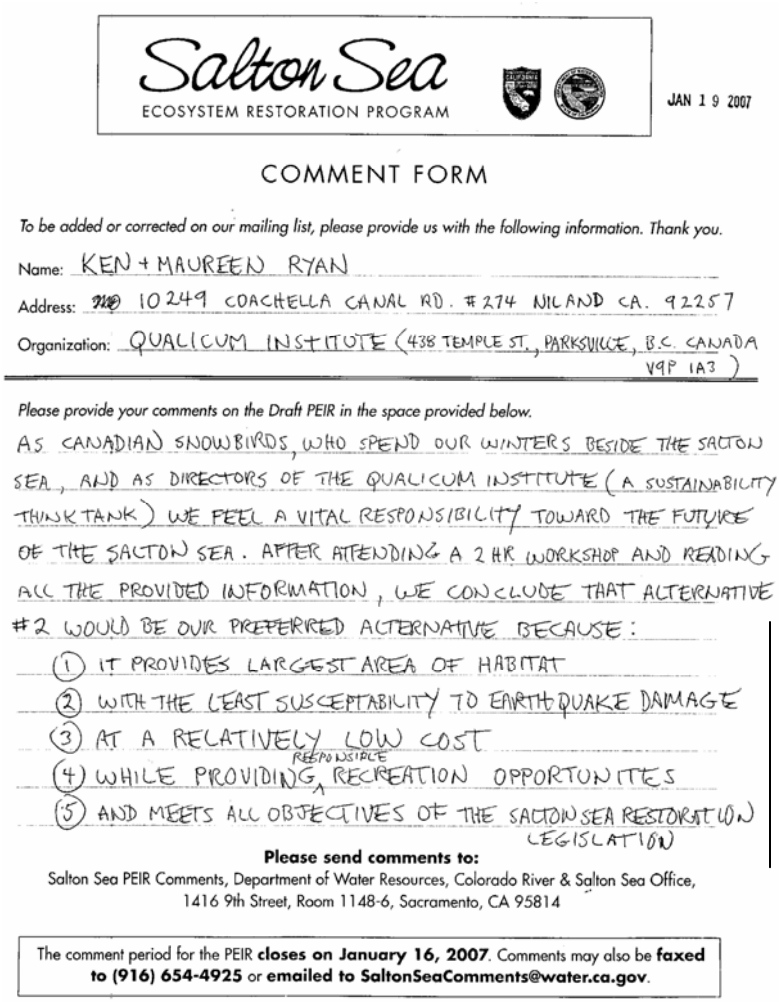
CRound-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.



Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

JAN 19 2007

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: KEN + MAUREEN RYAN

Address: 10249 COACHELLA CANAL RD. #274 NILAND CA. 92257

Organization: QUALICUM INSTITUTE (438 TEMPLE ST., PARKSVILLE, B.C. CANADA V9P 1A3)

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

AS CANADIAN SNOWBIRDS, WHO SPEND OUR WINTERS BESIDE THE SALTON SEA, AND AS DIRECTORS OF THE QUALICUM INSTITUTE (A SUSTAINABILITY THINK TANK) WE FEEL A VITAL RESPONSIBILITY TOWARD THE FUTURE OF THE SALTON SEA. AFTER ATTENDING A 2 HR WORKSHOP AND READING ALL THE PROVIDED INFORMATION, WE CONCLUDE THAT ALTERNATIVE #2 WOULD BE OUR PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE BECAUSE:

1. IT PROVIDES LARGEST AREA OF HABITAT
2. WITH THE LEAST SUSCEPTABILITY TO EARTHQUAKE DAMAGE
3. AT A RELATIVELY LOW COST
4. WHILE PROVIDING RESPONSIBLE RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES
5. AND MEETS ALL OBJECTIVES OF THE SALTON SEA RESTORATION LEGISLATION

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office,
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

KRyan-1

Ken and Maureen Ryan (KRyan)

KRyan-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

The 62,000-acre Saline Habitat Complex included in the Preferred Alternative would be located in the southern and northern portion of the Salton Sea and would provide habitat for a variety of avian species such as shorebirds, waterfowl, and potentially for fish-eating birds, including sensitive species currently found at the Salton Sea. It is expected that the Saline Habitat Complex would also provide limited habitat for some fish species, such as tilapia, and thus, provide foraging habitat for fish-eating birds. The Saline Habitat Complex is expected to provide the microclimate benefits that currently exist at the Salton Sea, and could be constructed using a variety of construction methods including Geotubes®.

The 45,000-acre Marine Sea included in the Preferred Alternative would be located primarily in the northern portion of the Sea, but would extend down the majority of the eastern and western shorelines. It is intended to support a marine fishery and fish-eating birds (such as pelicans, double-crested cormorants, and black skimmers). The Marine Sea would stabilize at a water surface elevation of -230 feet msl with a salinity between 30,000 mg/L and 40,000 mg/L. The water depth would be less than 10 to 12 meters (39 feet) to reduce hydrogen sulfide generation and potential fish kills due to long-term temperature stratification (temperature variations from top to bottom of the sea).

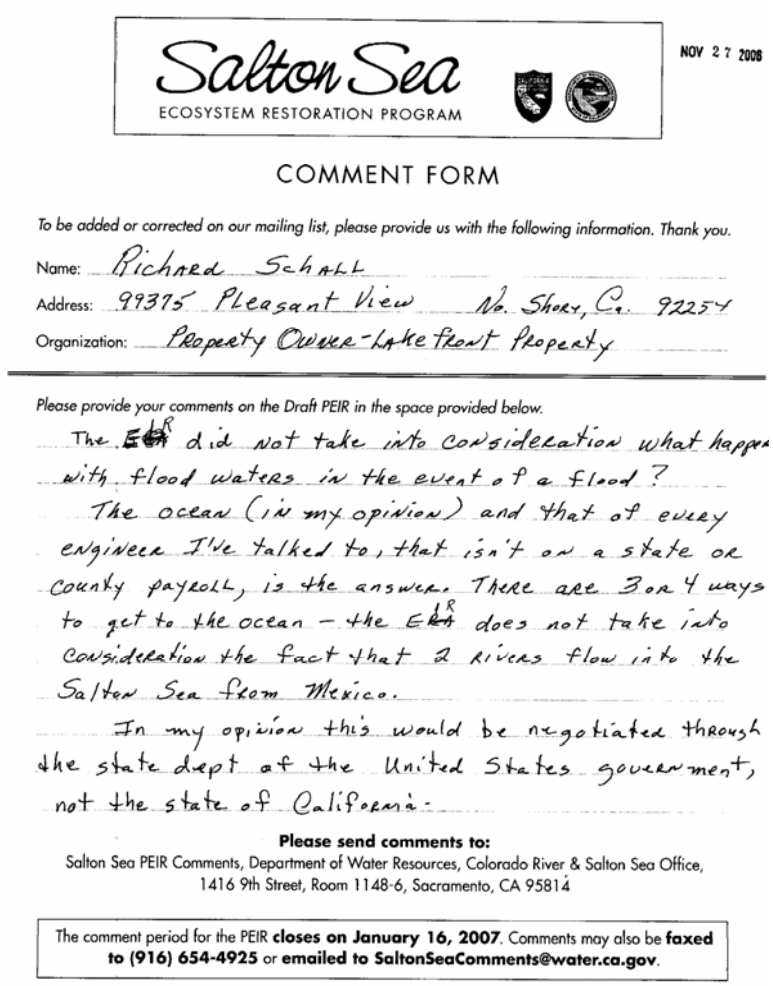
KRyan (cont.)

The Preferred Alternative incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project. These measures include the allocation of 0.5 acre-foot per acre of water to manage emissive areas of the Exposed Playa. The Preferred Alternative also includes actions and mitigation measures to reduce air quality impacts that could result from construction and operations and maintenance activities.

Although not a legislatively mandated objective, the Saline Habitat Complex is expected to allow for passive recreational opportunities, such as bird watching. Additionally, the Marine Sea would provide for water-based recreational opportunities that have historically occurred at the Salton Sea. This would include boating and fishing opportunities and allow for the ongoing operation of the majority of the existing harbors at the Salton Sea.

The Preferred Alternative also includes a variety of actions that could be implemented within the 5-year timeframe after the Legislature provides direction on implementing of a restoration program and identifies a future implementing agency. These actions include activities such as Early Start Habitat and measures targeted to address air quality uncertainties.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.



Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

NOV 27 2006

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: Richard Schall

Address: 99375 Pleasant View No. Shore, Ca. 92254

Organization: Property Owner-Lake front Property

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

The EIR did not take into consideration what happens with flood waters in the event of a flood?

The ocean (in my opinion) and that of every engineer I've talked to, that isn't on a state or county payroll, is the answer. There are 3 or 4 ways to get to the ocean – the EIR does not take into consideration the fact that 2 rivers flow into the Salton Sea from Mexico.

In my opinion this would be negotiated through the state dept of the United States government, not the state of California.

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office,
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

RSchall-1

RSchall-2

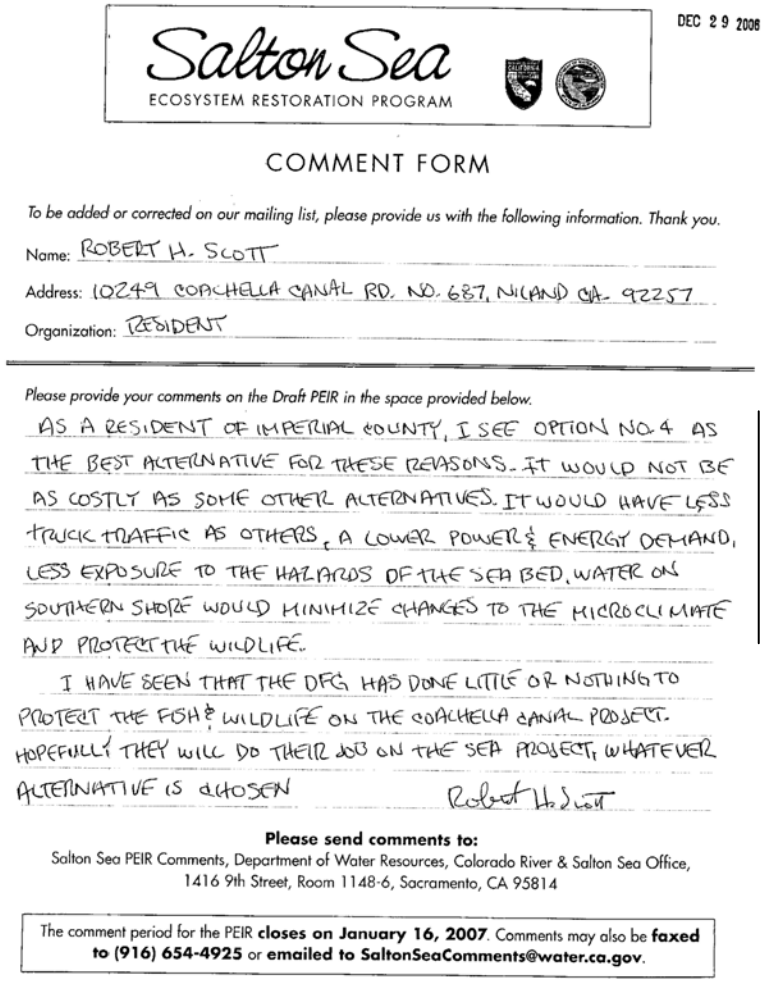
Richard Schall (RSchall)

RSchall-1

The California Department of Water Resources, Division of Safety of Dams requires that all dams within its jurisdiction be capable of adequately passing a selected design flood. This would require a hydrologic analysis be performed to evaluate spillway capacities for design to prevent overtopping. Additionally, all of the alternatives include a flood diversion structure to convey the largest historical flood events to the Brine Sink. This would allow for conveyance of flood flows around the project facilities and minimize the risk of failure of facilities. This is discussed in Chapter 3 and Appendix H-6 of the Draft PEIR.

RSchall-2

Alternatives that maintain the whole Salton Sea, including the importation of water from the Gulf of California were described in Chapter 2 of the Draft PEIR. As discussed in Chapter 2, this alternative was considered but was not carried forward in the Draft. The importation of water from the Gulf of California was not carried forward because the alternative does not meet the CEQA requirement for feasibility as the State would not legally be able to control or have access to the portion of the project that would be located in the Republic of Mexico.



Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

DEC 29 2006

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: ROBERT H. SCOTT

Address: 10249 COACHELLA CANAL RD. NO. 687, NILAND CA. 92257

Organization: RESIDENT

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

AS A RESIDENT OF IMPERIAL COUNTY, I SEE OPTION NO. 4 AS THE BEST ALTERNATIVE FOR THESE REASONS. IT WOULD NOT BE AS COSTLY AS SOME OTHER ALTERNATIVES. IT WOULD HAVE LESS TRUCK TRAFFIC AS OTHERS, A LOWER POWER & ENERGY DEMAND, LESS EXPOSURE TO THE HAZARDS OF THE SEA BED. WATER ON SOUTHERN SHORE WOULD MINIMIZE CHANGES TO THE MICROCLIMATE AND PROTECT THE WILDLIFE.

I HAVE SEEN THAT THE DFG HAS DONE LITTLE OR NOTHING TO PROTECT THE FISH & WILDLIFE ON THE COACHELLA CANAL PROJECT. HOPEFULLY THEY WILL DO THEIR JOB ON THE SEA PROJECT, WHATEVER ALTERNATIVE IS CHOSEN

Robert H. Scott

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office,
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

RScott-1

Robert Scott (RScott)

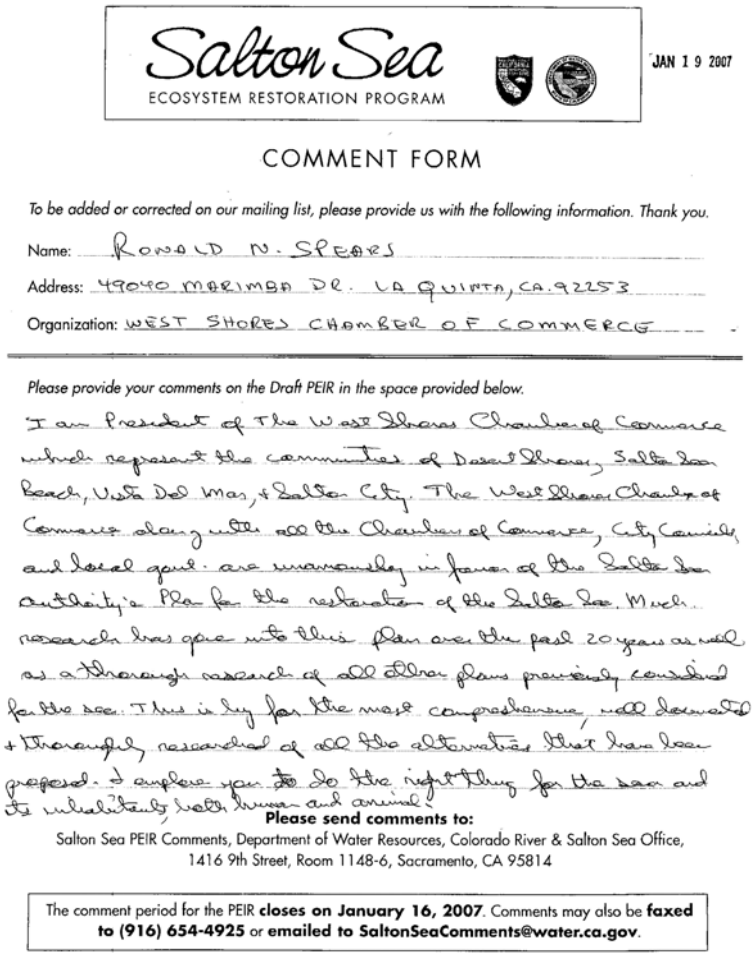
RScott-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.



Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

JAN 1 9 2007

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: RONALD N. SPEARS

Address: 49040 MARIMBA DR. LA QUINTA, CA. 92253

Organization: WEST SHORES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

I am President of the West Shores Chamber of Commerce which represent the communities of Desert Shores, Salton Sea Beach, Vista Del Mar, & Salton City. The West Shores Chamber of Commerce along with all the Chambers of Commerce, City Councils, and local govt. are unanimously in favor of the Salton Sea Authority's Plan for the restoration of the Salton Sea. Much research has gone into this plan over the past 20 years as well as a thorough research of all other plans previously considered for the sea. This is by far the most comprehensive, well documented & thoroughly researched of all the alternatives that have been proposed. I implore you to do the right thing for the sea and its inhabitants both human and animal!

RSpears-1

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office,
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

Ronald Spears (RSpears)

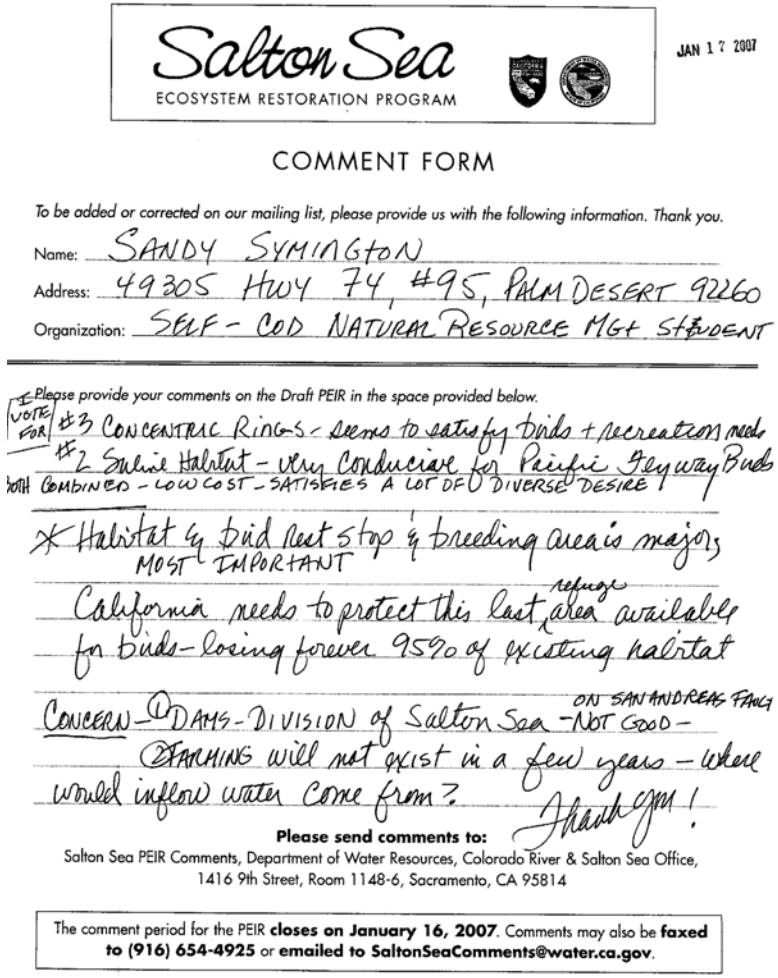
RSpears-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.



Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

JAN 17 2007

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: SANDY SYMINGTON

Address: 49305 HWY 74, #95, PALM DESERT 92260

Organization: SELF - COD NATURAL RESOURCE MGt STUDENT

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

I VOTE FOR #3 CONCENTRIC RINGS - seems to satisfy birds + recreation needs
#2 Saline Habitat - very conducive for Pacific Flyway Birds
BOTH COMBINED - LOW COST - SATISFIES A LOT OF DIVERSE DESIRE!

* Habitat & bird rest stop & breeding area is major; MOST IMPORTANT
California needs to protect this last refuge area available for birds - losing forever 95% of existing habitat

CONCERN - DAMS - DIVISION of Salton Sea - NOT GOOD - ON SAN ANDREAS FAULT
FARMING will not exist in a few years - where would inflow water come from?

Thank you!

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office, 1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

SSymington-1

SSymington-2

SSymington-3

Sandy Symington (SSymington)

SSymington-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

SSymington-2

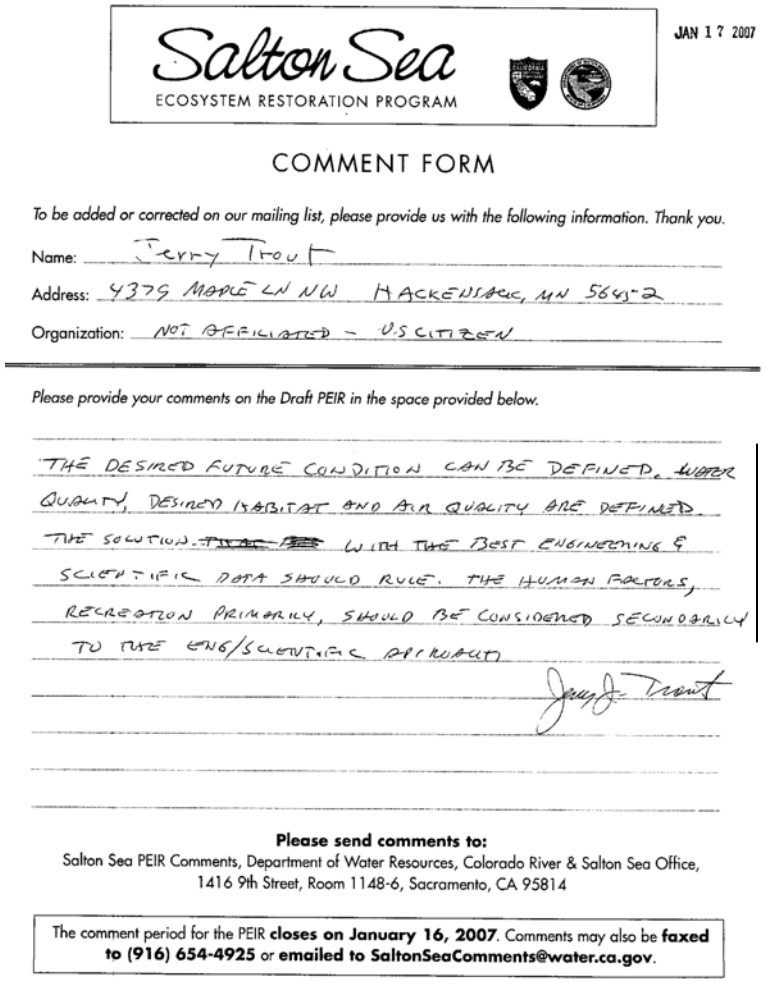
The potential for loss of life or property due to failure of a facility due to an earthquake or related seismic event was described in Chapter 9 of the Draft PEIR. As identified in Chapter 9, all of the alternatives could result in significant impacts due to the potential risk to workers and others during seismic events. However, Next Steps were identified that include construction of facilities in accordance with the California Building Code and applicable design standards, such as the standards set forth by the California Department of Water Resources, Division of Safety of Dams to reduce the risk of loss due to seismic events.

SSymington-3

The hydrology and associated inflows analysis for the Draft PEIR was developed in coordination with the Inflows Working Group. The group was a sub-group of the Salton Sea Advisory Committee. It was open to the public and meetings were attended by a variety of local, regional, and statewide agencies, environmental organizations, and interested members of the public.

SSymington (cont.)

The Draft PEIR considered two alternative future hydrologic conditions: No Action Alternative-CEQA Conditions and No Action Alternative-Variability Conditions. The No Action Alternative-CEQA Conditions are based on the CEQA Guidelines which limits consideration to those projects and actions to those that are reasonably foreseeable (which, for the purposes of the Draft PEIR was determined to be projects that have already undergone environmental permitting). Due to the long planning horizon for this project and the sensitivity of the Salton Sea conditions to inflows, a broader interpretation was necessary and appropriate. The No Action Alternative-Variability Conditions considered a broader range of possible future conditions, including possible future water management changes, as discussed in Appendix H-2 of the Draft PEIR.



Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

JAN 17 2007

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: Jerry Trout

Address: 4375 MAPLE LN NW HACKENSACK, MN 56452

Organization: NOT AFFILIATED – U.S CITIZEN

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

THE DESIRED FUTURE CONDITION CAN BE DEFINED. WATER QUALITY, DESIRED HABITAT AND AIR QUALITY ARE DEFINED. THE SOLUTION ~~THAT FITS~~ WITH THE BEST ENGINEERING & SCIENTIFIC DATA SHOULD RULE. THE HUMAN FACTORS, RECREATION PRIMARILY, SHOULD BE CONSIDERED SECONDARILY TO THE ENG/SCIENTIFIC APPROACH

Jerry J. Trout

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office,
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

JTrout-1

Jerry Trout (JTrout)

JTrout-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

JAN 17 2007

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: RON AND LYNDA VALENTINE

Address: 95 EAST 37TH ST, HAMILTON, ONTARIO, CANADA, L8V1B4 (10249 COACHELLA CANAL RD) NILAND, CA 92257 (UNTIL 1.27.2007)

Organization:

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

OUR RECOMMENDATION WOULD BE NUMBER ONE - CONSTRUCTION COST IS REASONABLE, THERE WOULD BE SOMEWHAT LESS NOISE DURING THE CONSTRUCTION PHASE, MAKE SMALLER DEMANDS ON POWER, INVOLVE LESS VEHICULAR TRAFFIC, HAVE LITTLE IMPACT ON ~~[illegible]~~ PUBLIC SERVICES AND, HOPEFULLY, ALLOW THE CURRENT AVIAN DIVERSITY AND ABUNDANCE TO BE MAINTAINED. WE ATTENDED THE BOMBAY BEACH PUBLIC MEETINGS AND WERE IMPRESSED BY THE PRESENTATION AND THE PROFESSIONAL WAY THAT THE QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR WERE ANSWERED. AS BIRDERS WE ARE CONCERNED THAT THE SALTON SEA IS DEGRADING AND HOPE THAT ONCE DECIDED UPON THE SELECTED PLAN WOULD BE STARTED WITH THE MINIMUM OF DELAY. — RValentine-1

THANKYOU.

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office, 1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

Ron and Lynda Valentine (RValentine)

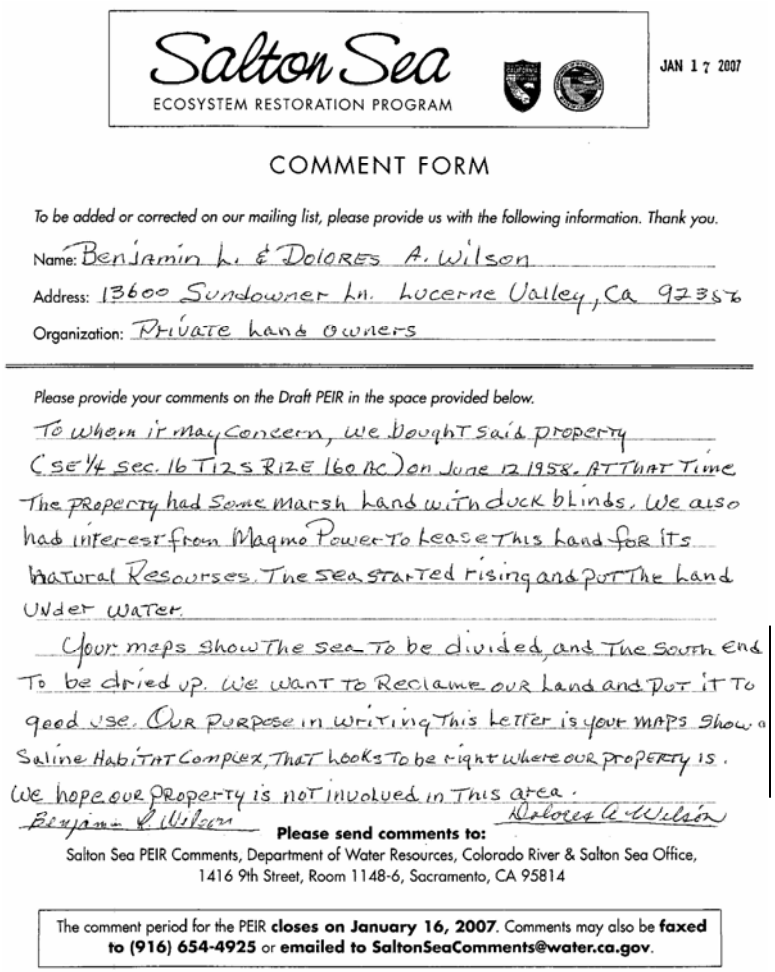
RValentine-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.



Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

JAN 17 2007

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: Benjamin L. & Dolores A. Wilson

Address: 13600 Sundowner Ln. Lucerne Valley, CA 92356

Organization: Private land owners

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

To whom it may Concern, we bought said property (SE¼ sec. 16 T12S R1E 160 AC) on June 12 1958. At that time the property had some marsh land with duck blinds. We also had interest from Magma Power to lease this land for its natural Resources. The sea started rising and put the land under water.

Your maps show the sea to be divided, and the South end to be dried up. We want to Reclame our land and put it to good use. Our purpose in writing this letter is your MAPS show a Saline Habitat Complex, that looks to be right where our property is. We hope our property is not involved in this area.

Benjamin L. Wilson Dolores A. Wilson

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office,
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

BWilson-1

Benjamin and Dolores Wilson (BWilson)

BWilson-1

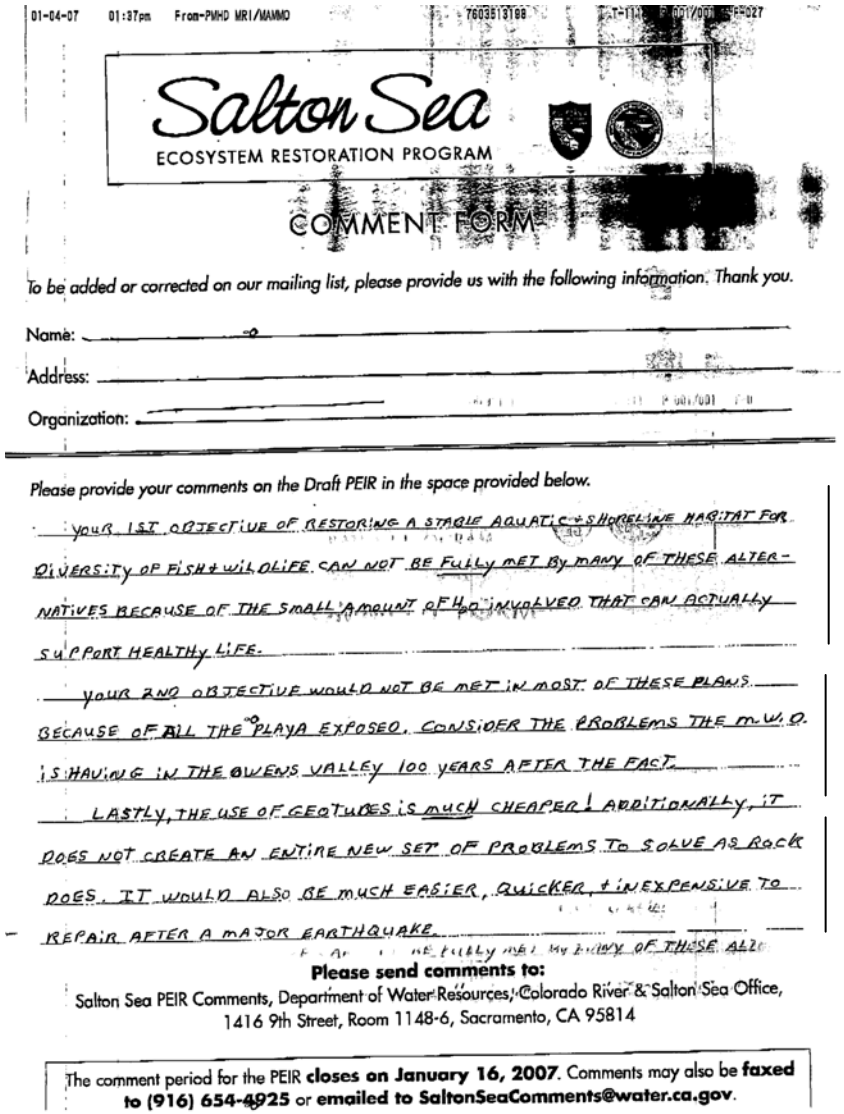
As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

The exact location of facilities would be determined during project-level analysis.



01-04-07 01:37pm From-PMHD MRI/MAMMO 7603513188 T-114 P.001/001 F-027

Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name:

Address:

Organization:

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

Anon1-1

YOUR 1ST OBJECTIVE OF RESTORING A STABLE AQUATIC + SHORELINE HABITAT FOR DIVERSITY OF FISH + WILDLIFE. CAN NOT BE FULLY MET BY MANY OF THESE ALTERNATIVES BECAUSE OF THE SMALL AMOUNT OF H2O INVOLVED THAT CAN ACTUALLY SUPPORT HEALTHY LIFE.

Anon1-2

YOUR 2ND OBJECTIVE WOULD NOT BE MET IN MOST OF THESE PLANS BECAUSE OF ALL THE PLAYA EXPOSED. CONSIDER THE PROBLEMS THE M.W.D. IS HAVING IN THE OWENS VALLEY 100 YEARS AFTER THE FACT.

Anon1-3

LASTLY, THE USE OF GEOTUBES IS MUCH CHEAPER! ADDITIONALLY, IT DOES NOT CREATE AN ENTIRE NEW SET OF PROBLEMS TO SOLVE AS ROCK DOES. IT WOULD ALSO BE MUCH EASIER, QUICKER, + INEXPENSIVE TO REPAIR AFTER A MAJOR EARTHQUAKE.

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office,
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

Anonymous 1 (Anon1)

Anon1-1

The Salton Sea Restoration Act (Fish and Game Code 2931(c)(1-3)) states that "the preferred alternative shall provide the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives: (1) Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea. (2) Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration projects. (3) Protection of water quality." All of the alternatives meet the legislative objectives to varying degrees.

Anon1-2

See response to comment Anon1-1. The Preferred Alternative incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project. These measures include the allocation of 0.5 acre-foot per acre of water to manage emissive areas of the Exposed Playa. The Preferred Alternative also includes actions and mitigation measures to reduce air quality impacts that could result from construction and operations and maintenance activities.

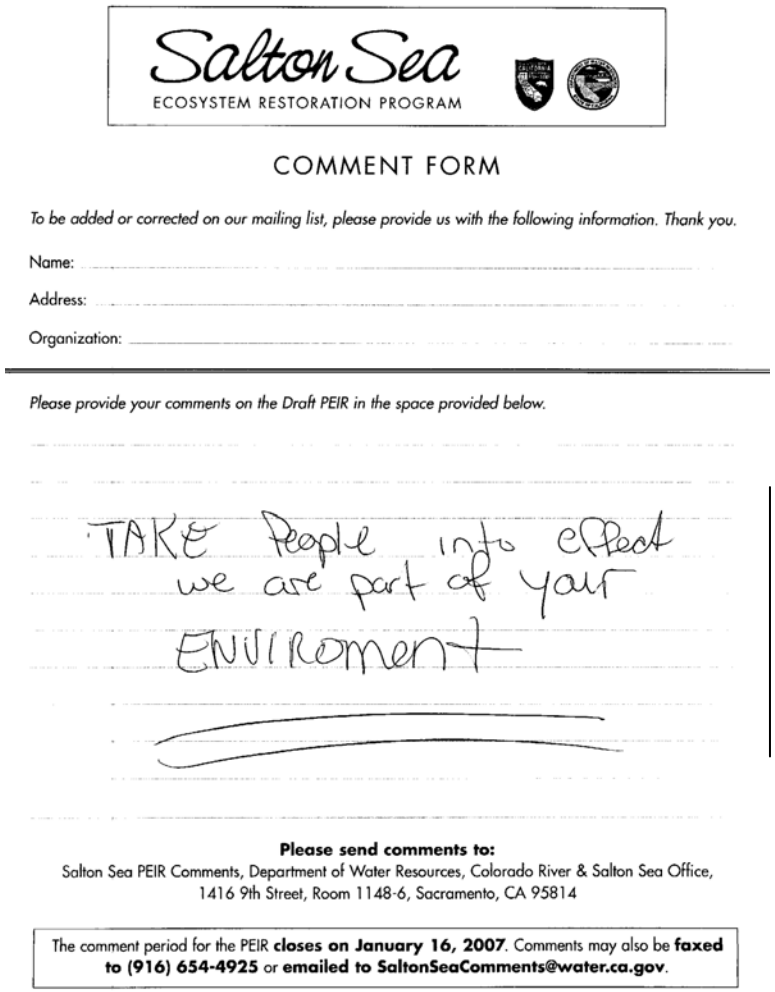
The Preferred Alternative also includes a variety of actions that could be implemented within the 5-year timeframe after the Legislature provides direction on implementing of a restoration program and identifies a future implementing agency. These actions include activities such as Early Start Habitat and measures targeted to address air quality uncertainties.

Anon1-3

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality.

The 62,000-acre Saline Habitat Complex included in the Preferred Alternative would be located in the southern and northern portion of the Salton Sea and would provide habitat for a variety of avian species such as shorebirds, waterfowl, and potentially for fish-eating birds, including sensitive species currently found at the Salton Sea. It is expected that the Saline Habitat Complex would also provide limited habitat for some fish species, such as tilapia, and thus, provide foraging habitat for fish-eating birds. The Saline Habitat Complex is expected to provide the microclimate benefits that currently exist at the Salton Sea, and could be constructed using a variety of construction methods including Geotubes®.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.



Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Organization: _____

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

TAKE People into effect
we are part of your
ENVIROMENT

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office,
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

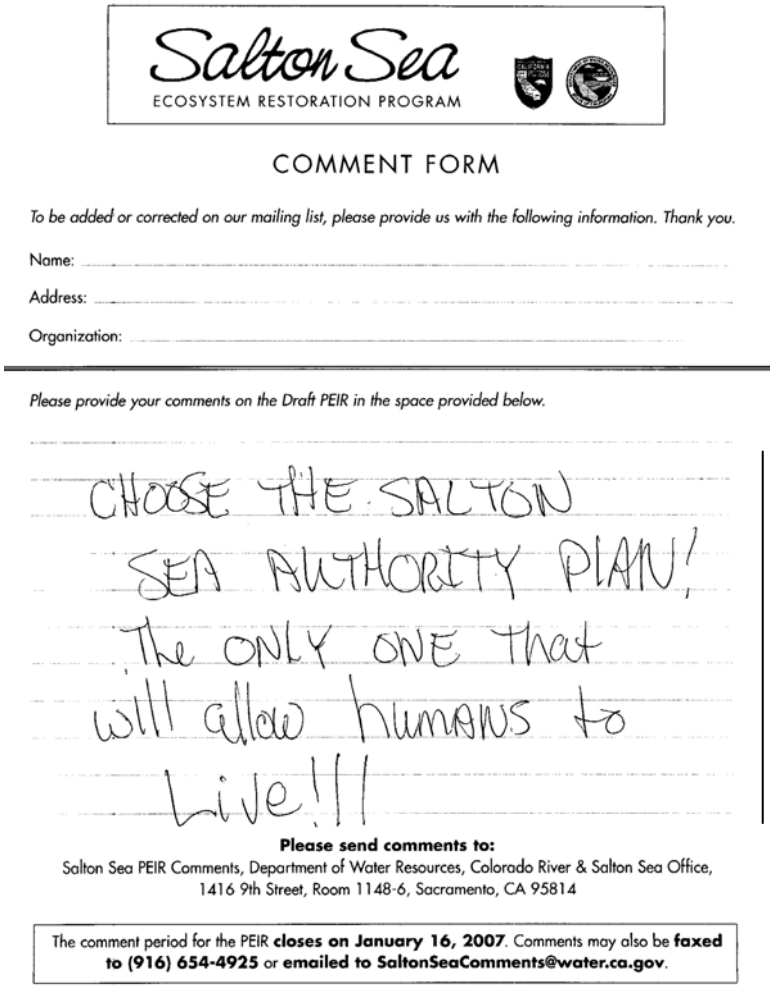
The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

Anon2-1

Anonymous 2 (Anon2)

Anon2-1

The Resources Agency has a statutory mandate to prepare a programmatic environmental document and a restoration study and to determine a preferred alternative for the restoration of the Salton Sea ecosystem and the protection of wildlife dependent on that ecosystem (see Fish and Game Code Section 2081.7). The Salton Sea Restoration Act (Fish and Game Code 2931(c)(1-3)) states that "the preferred alternative shall provide the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives: (1) Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea. (2) Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration projects. (3) Protection of water quality."



Salton Sea
ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM

COMMENT FORM

To be added or corrected on our mailing list, please provide us with the following information. Thank you.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Organization: _____

Please provide your comments on the Draft PEIR in the space provided below.

CHOOSE THE SALTON SEA AUTHORITY PLAN! THE ONLY ONE THAT will allow humans to Live!!!

Please send comments to:
Salton Sea PEIR Comments, Department of Water Resources, Colorado River & Salton Sea Office, 1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6, Sacramento, CA 95814

The comment period for the PEIR **closes on January 16, 2007**. Comments may also be **faxed to (916) 654-4925** or **emailed to SaltonSeaComments@water.ca.gov**.

Anon3-1

Anonymous 3 (Anon3)

Anon 3-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
CA Department of Water Resources
Colorado River & Salton Sea Office
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

I am writing to comment on the Draft PEIR on Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration. I am very interested in wildlife conservation and concerned about protecting wildlife habitat at the Salton Sea, which is an Important Bird Area and a national treasure. Over 400 bird species rely on the Salton Sea ecosystem, and public health depends on preventing dangerous dust pollution caused by a dry seabed. Restoration should provide the maximum feasible wildlife habitat, air, and water quality protection, as required by law.

Although the Draft EIR contains a wide range of restoration alternatives, none of the alternatives provides the maximum feasible wildlife, air, and water quality protection. By taking features from different alternatives, however, the State of California could present a final, preferred alternative that meets these requirements and protects this unique and important resource.

The preferred alternative should include the following features from different draft alternatives:

1. At least 38,000 to 50,000 acres of Shallow Saline Habitat Complex, as described in draft Alternatives 1 and 2;

2. Concentric lakes using geotubes or other dirt-filled barriers, as described in draft Alternative 4, to provide additional habitat and recreational opportunities;

3. A large north lake, fed by the Whitewater River, as described in draft Alternatives 5-7, to provide recreational opportunities without the habitat and other risks posed by a deep, mid-Sea barrier and pumping from the New and Alamo Rivers;

4. Sufficient water for air quality mitigation, including at least one-half acre-foot per year of water for each acre of exposed seabed, as described in draft Alternatives 1-3, 5-6 and 8;

5. Several thousand acres of Early Start Habitat to replace habitat during permitting and construction;

6. The flexibility of Alternatives 1, 2 and 4 to allow for phasing, monitoring and adaptive management.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Form1-1

Form Letter #1 (Form1)

Form1-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

The 62,000-acre Saline Habitat Complex included in the Preferred Alternative would be located in the southern and northern portion of the Salton Sea and would provide habitat for a variety of avian species such as shorebirds, waterfowl, and potentially for fish-eating birds, including sensitive species currently found at the Salton Sea. It is expected that the Saline Habitat Complex would also provide limited habitat for some fish species, such as tilapia, and thus, provide foraging habitat for fish-eating birds. The Saline Habitat Complex is expected to provide the microclimate benefits that currently exist at the Salton Sea, and could be constructed using a variety of construction methods including Geotubes®.

The 45,000-acre Marine Sea included in the Preferred Alternative would be located primarily in the northern portion of the Sea, but would extend down the majority of the eastern and western shorelines. It is intended to support a marine fishery and fish-eating birds (such as pelicans, double-crested cormorants, and black skimmers). The Marine Sea would stabilize at a water surface elevation of -230 feet msl with a salinity between 30,000 mg/L and 40,000 mg/L. The water depth would be less than 10 to 12 meters (39 feet) to reduce hydrogen sulfide generation and potential fish kills due to long-term temperature stratification (temperature variations from top to bottom of the sea).

Form1 (cont.)

The Preferred Alternative incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project. These measures include the allocation of 0.5 acre-foot per acre of water to manage emissive areas of the Exposed Playa. The Preferred Alternative also includes actions and mitigation measures to reduce air quality impacts that could result from construction and operations and maintenance activities.

Although not a legislatively mandated objective, the Saline Habitat Complex is expected to allow for passive recreational opportunities, such as bird watching. Additionally, the Marine Sea would provide for water-based recreational opportunities that have historically occurred at the Salton Sea. This would include boating and fishing opportunities and allow for the ongoing operation of the majority of the existing harbors at the Salton Sea.

The Preferred Alternative also includes a variety of actions that could be implemented within the 5-year timeframe after the Legislature provides direction on implementation of a restoration program and identifies a future implementing agency. These actions include activities such as Early Start Habitat and measures targeted to address air quality uncertainties.

The Preferred Alternative includes many of the components suggested by the commenter. See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Form Letter #2 (Form2)

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke:

I am writing to offer my comments on the Resources Agency's Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report for the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program (PEIR).

There is no question that the State of California must take action at the Salton Sea. A shrinking Salton Sea will harm the health of children and adults in the Imperial and Coachella valleys by subjecting this population to hundreds of additional tons of dust that would blow, each year, off the exposed land. A smaller, saltier Sea would also be of little or no value to many of the 400 species of birds sometimes numbering in the millions of individual birds that currently use the Sea. With the loss of nearly 95% of California's wetlands, many of these birds will have no other place to go, leading to catastrophic losses that will be felt up and down the Pacific Flyway.

Most proposed alternatives suffer from massive construction and permitting requirements that would slow implementation, degrade air quality, and impose additional, unacceptable impacts over a wide area. In light of California's commitment to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions, it makes no sense to implement a project that requires massive amounts of energy to pump (and in some instances, treat) water, nor does it make sense to build massive dams or dikes that require thousands of truck trips each day, to move the tens of millions of cubic yards of rock needed for construction.

Fortunately, the PEIR contains the information and components necessary to piece together a successful plan from the proposed alternatives. Alternatives 1 and 2 provide important habitat to support many of the birds that currently use the Salton Sea. Alternative 4 offers a relatively low-cost, low-impact method to distribute water around much of the present shoreline and would provide additional habitat, shoreline protection and opportunities for recreation. The concentric lakes plan would provide direct air quality benefits, and would also offer a ready source of water for managing air quality problem areas that might arise in the future. And components of the larger north lake alternatives (Alternatives 5-7) provide recreation and economic development opportunities, enjoying the broad local support necessary for funding and implementation.

I urge that DWR combine the following features from the proposed alternatives into a final, preferred alternative that would meet the legal requirements for restoration of the Sea:

* Between 38,000 - 50,000 acres of Shallow Saline Habitat Complex, as described in Alternatives 1 and 2, at the southern and northern ends of the Sea to provide habitat for shoreline species;

* Create concentric rings using geotubes or other dirt-filled barriers, as described in Alternative 4, to provide additional shallow habitat, deeper marine habitat, shoreline and view protection, air-quality protections, and recreation;

* Similar to the lakes found in Alternatives 5-7, provide a large (approximately 10,000 acre) North Lake, which would be the largest recreational lake in Southern California, fed by the Whitewater River to provide recreation and development opportunities without the costs and risks associated with a major mid-Sea barrier or the costs of pumping water from the southern end of the Sea;

* Provide at least one-half acre-foot of water per acre of exposed Seabed, as stipulated by the Salton Sea Advisory Committee, to prevent dust pollution caused by exposed playa, as described in Alternatives 1-3, 5-6 and 8;

* Construct shallow saline habitat (known as early start habitat) immediately to provide resources for birds during the long permitting and construction process, as described in all of the proposed alternatives; and

* Develop a plan that provides water for habitat and air quality mitigation first, in case of possible shortages or system malfunctions, as described in Alternatives 1-3.

A Final Preferred Alternative that contains all of these components, each of which is present and analyzed in one or more of the draft alternatives, would best meet the legal requirements to maximize habitat, air quality and water quality, while also providing substantial recreation and development opportunities.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Form2-1

Form2 (cont.)

Form2-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

The 62,000-acre Saline Habitat Complex included in the Preferred Alternative would be located in the southern and northern portion of the Salton Sea and would provide habitat for a variety of avian species such as shorebirds, waterfowl, and potentially for fish-eating birds, including sensitive species currently found at the Salton Sea. It is expected that the Saline Habitat Complex would also provide limited habitat for some fish species, such as tilapia, and thus, provide foraging habitat for fish-eating birds. The Saline Habitat Complex is expected to provide the microclimate benefits that currently exist at the Salton Sea, and could be constructed using a variety of construction methods including Geotubes®.

The 45,000-acre Marine Sea included in the Preferred Alternative would be located primarily in the northern portion of the Sea, but would extend down the majority of the eastern and western shorelines. It is intended to support a marine fishery and fish-eating birds (such as pelicans, double-crested cormorants, and black skimmers). The Marine Sea would stabilize at a water surface elevation of -230 feet msl with a salinity between 30,000 mg/L and 40,000 mg/L. The water depth would be less than 10 to 12 meters (39 feet) to reduce hydrogen sulfide generation and potential fish kills due to long-term temperature stratification (temperature variations from top to bottom of the sea).

Form2 (cont.)

The Preferred Alternative incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project. These measures include the allocation of 0.5 acre-foot per acre of water to manage emissive areas of the Exposed Playa. The Preferred Alternative also includes actions and mitigation measures to reduce air quality impacts that could result from construction and operations and maintenance activities.

Although not a legislatively mandated objective, the Saline Habitat Complex is expected to allow for passive recreational opportunities, such as bird watching. Additionally, the Marine Sea would provide for water-based recreational opportunities that have historically occurred at the Salton Sea. This would include boating and fishing opportunities and allow for the ongoing operation of the majority of the existing harbors at the Salton Sea.

The Preferred Alternative also includes a variety of actions that could be implemented within the 5-year timeframe after the Legislature provides direction on implementation of a restoration program and identifies a future implementing agency. These actions include activities such as Early Start Habitat and measures targeted to address air quality uncertainties.

The Preferred Alternative includes many of the components suggested by the commenter. See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Dale Hoffman-Floerke
CA Dept. of Water Resources
Colorado River & Salton Sea Office
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Dale Hoffman-Floerke, CA Dept. of Water Resources,

I am writing to offer my comments on the Salton Sea Restoration Program DPEIR. The State of California must take action to preserve critical wildlife habitat in the Salton Sea, unfortunately, none of the alternatives presented in the DPEIR adequately protect wildlife habitat, air and water quality. Therefore, I urge the Resources Agency to consider combining the best features from the proposed alternatives into a final, preferred alternative that would meet the needs for habitat restoration and protect local and regional air and water quality.

Alternatives 1 and 2 provide important habitat to support many of the birds that currently use the Salton Sea. Alternative 4 offers a relatively low-cost, low-impact method to distribute water around much of the present shoreline and would provide additional habitat, shoreline protection and opportunities for recreation. The concentric lakes plan would provide direct air quality benefits, and would also offer a ready source of water for managing air quality problem areas that might arise in the future. Components of the larger north lake alternatives (Alternatives 5-7) provide recreation and economic development opportunities, enjoying the broad local support necessary for funding and implementation of the needed restoration.

Specifically, I encourage the Resources Agency to adopt a final, preferred alternative that includes the following:

- Between 25,000 and 50,000 acres of Shallow Saline Habitat Complex, as described in Alternatives 1 and 2, at the southern and northern ends of the Sea to provide habitat for shoreline species;

- Creation of concentric rings using geotubes or other dirt-filled barriers, as described in Alternative 4, to provide additional shallow habitat, deeper marine habitat, shoreline and view protection, air-quality protections, and recreation;

- Creation of a large North Lake, similar to those found in Alternatives 5-7, to provide recreation and development opportunities without the costs and risks associated with a major mid-Sea barrier or the costs of pumping water from the southern end of the Sea;

- Adequate water per acre of exposed seabed, as stipulated by the Salton Sea Advisory Committee, to prevent dust pollution caused by exposed playa, as described in Alternatives 1-3, 5-6 and 8;

Form3-1

Form #3 (Form3)

Form3-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

The 62,000-acre Saline Habitat Complex included in the Preferred Alternative would be located in the southern and northern portion of the Salton Sea and would provide habitat for a variety of avian species such as shorebirds, waterfowl, and potentially for fish-eating birds, including sensitive species currently found at the Salton Sea. It is expected that the Saline Habitat Complex would also provide limited habitat for some fish species, such as tilapia, and thus, provide foraging habitat for fish-eating birds. The Saline Habitat Complex is expected to provide the microclimate benefits that currently exist at the Salton Sea, and could be constructed using a variety of construction methods including Geotubes®.

The 45,000-acre Marine Sea included in the Preferred Alternative would be located primarily in the northern portion of the Sea, but would extend down the majority of the eastern and western shorelines. It is intended to support a marine fishery and fish-eating birds (such as pelicans, double-crested cormorants, and black skimmers). The Marine Sea would stabilize at a water surface elevation of -230 feet msl with a salinity between 30,000 mg/L and 40,000 mg/L. The water depth would be less than 10 to 12 meters (39 feet) to reduce hydrogen sulfide generation and potential fish kills due to long-term temperature stratification (temperature variations from top to bottom of the sea).

- Construct shallow saline habitat immediately to provide resources for birds during the long permitting and construction process; and

- Develop a plan that prioritizes use of water for habitat and air quality mitigation first, in case of possible shortages or system malfunctions, as described in Alternatives 1-3.

A Final Preferred Alternative that contains all of these components, each of which is present and analyzed in one or more of the draft alternatives, would best meet the legal requirements to maximize habitat, air quality and water quality, while also providing substantial recreation and development opportunities. I urge the Resources Agency to provide a proposal with the components and features outlined above as the final, preferred alternative, and I urge the State to select this alternative that will best protect wildlife habitat and air and water quality at a reasonable cost and in a reasonable time frame.

Form3-1 cont.

Form3 (cont.)

The Preferred Alternative incorporates the air quality "tool box" measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project. These measures include the allocation of 0.5 acre-foot per acre of water to manage emissive areas of the Exposed Playa. The Preferred Alternative also includes actions and mitigation measures to reduce air quality impacts that could result from construction and operations and maintenance activities.

Although not a legislatively mandated objective, the Saline Habitat Complex is expected to allow for passive recreational opportunities, such as bird watching. Additionally, the Marine Sea would provide for water-based recreational opportunities that have historically occurred at the Salton Sea. This would include boating and fishing opportunities and allow for the ongoing operation of the majority of the existing harbors at the Salton Sea.

The Preferred Alternative also includes a variety of actions that could be implemented within the 5-year timeframe after the Legislature provides direction on implementation of a restoration program and identifies a future implementing agency. These actions include activities such as Early Start Habitat and measures targeted to address air quality uncertainties.

The Preferred Alternative includes many of the components suggested by the commenter. See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Ms. Dale Hoffman-Floerke
1416 9th Street, Room 1148-6
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

As a supporter of Defenders of Wildlife and the Salton Sea -- one of North America's largest stopovers for migratory birds -- I am writing to offer my comments of the California Department of Water Resources Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report on the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program (PEIR). The Salton Sea is a national treasure, and the state must take action to prevent its disappearance. A shrinking Salton Sea will not only harm the health of communities in the surrounding Imperial and Coachella Valleys by affecting air and water quality, but it will also harm an important migratory bird stopover in the Pacific Flyway. With over 90 percent of the wetlands in California gone, the 400 bird species that depend on the Salton Sea will have no other place to go, leading to catastrophic losses for migratory bird populations.

Unfortunately, most proposed alternatives in the PEIR fail to adequately protect fish, wildlife and air and water quality in the Salton Sea area. The PEIR does, however, contain the components and information necessary to formulate a successful plan. Please incorporate the following features into a final preferred alternative that would meet legal requirements for the restoration of the Salton Sea.

Form4-1

* Establish between 38,000 to 50,000 acres of Shallow Saline Habitat Complex, as described in Alternatives 1 and 2, at the southern and northern ends of the Sea to provide habitat for shoreline species;

* Create concentric rings using geotubes or other dirt-filled barriers, as described in Alternative 4, to provide additional shallow habitat, deeper marine habitat, shoreline and view protection, air-quality protections, and recreation;

* Provide a large (approximately 10,000 acre) North Lake, which would be the largest recreational lake in Southern California, fed by the Whitewater River to provide recreation and development opportunities without the costs and risks associated with a major mid-Sea barrier or the costs of pumping water from the southern end of the Sea (Similar to the proposals found in Alternatives 5-7);

Form #4 (Form4)

Form4-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

- Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;
- Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and
- Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

The 62,000-acre Saline Habitat Complex included in the Preferred Alternative would be located in the southern and northern portion of the Salton Sea and would provide habitat for a variety of avian species such as shorebirds, waterfowl, and potentially for fish-eating birds, including sensitive species currently found at the Salton Sea. It is expected that the Saline Habitat Complex would also provide limited habitat for some fish species, such as tilapia, and thus, provide foraging habitat for fish-eating birds. The Saline Habitat Complex is expected to provide the microclimate benefits that currently exist at the Salton Sea, and could be constructed using a variety of construction methods including Geotubes®.

The 45,000-acre Marine Sea included in the Preferred Alternative would be located primarily in the northern portion of the Sea, but would extend down the majority of the eastern and western shorelines. It is intended to support a marine fishery and fish-eating birds (such as pelicans, double-crested cormorants, and black skimmers). The Marine Sea would stabilize at a water surface elevation of -230 feet msl with a salinity between 30,000 mg/L and 40,000 mg/L. The water depth would be less than 10 to 12 meters (39 feet) to reduce hydrogen sulfide generation and potential fish kills due to long-term temperature stratification (temperature variations from top to bottom of the sea).

* Provide at least one-half acre-foot of water per acre of exposed Seabed, as stipulated by the Salton Sea Advisory Committee, to prevent dust pollution caused by exposed playa, as described in Alternatives 1-3, 5-6 and 8;

* Construct shallow saline habitat (known as "early start habitat") immediately to provide resources for birds during the long permitting and construction process, as described in all of the proposed alternatives; and

* Develop a plan that provides water for habitat and air quality mitigation first, in case of possible shortages or system malfunctions, as described in Alternatives 1-3.

A Final Preferred Alternative that contains all of these components would best meet the legal requirements to maximize habitat, air quality and water quality, while also providing substantial recreation and development opportunities.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Form4-1 cont.

Form4 (cont.)

The Preferred Alternative incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project. These measures include the allocation of 0.5 acre-foot per acre of water to manage emissive areas of the Exposed Playa. The Preferred Alternative also includes actions and mitigation measures to reduce air quality impacts that could result from construction and operations and maintenance activities.

Although not a legislatively mandated objective, the Saline Habitat Complex is expected to allow for passive recreational opportunities, such as bird watching. Additionally, the Marine Sea would provide for water-based recreational opportunities that have historically occurred at the Salton Sea. This would include boating and fishing opportunities and allow for the ongoing operation of the majority of the existing harbors at the Salton Sea.

The Preferred Alternative also includes a variety of actions that could be implemented within the 5-year timeframe after the Legislature provides direction on implementation of a restoration program and identifies a future implementing agency. These actions include activities such as Early Start Habitat and measures targeted to address air quality uncertainties.

The Preferred Alternative includes many of the components suggested by the commenter. See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.

Dale Hoffman-Floerke
Salton Sea PEIR Comments
CA Department of Water Resources
1416 9th Street, Room
1148-6 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Hoffman-Floerke,

I am writing to offer my comments on the draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report for the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program.

There is no question that California must take action at the Salton Sea. A shrinking Salton Sea would subject the residents of Imperial and Coachella valleys to hundreds of additional tons of harmful dust each year that would be blown off the exposed land. A smaller, saltier sea also would be of little or no value to many of the 400 species of birds that currently use the sea. With the loss of nearly 95 percent of California's wetlands, many of these birds would have no other place to go, leading to catastrophic losses.

Fortunately, a successful plan can be pieced together from the proposed alternatives in the draft report. I therefore urge your department to combine the following features from the proposed alternatives into a final preferred alternative to restore the Salton Sea:

Form5-1

** as described in Alternatives 1 and 2, include 38,000 to 50,000 acres of shallow habitat for shoreline species at the southern and northern ends of the sea;

** as described in Alternative 4, create concentric rings using geotubes or other dirt-filled barriers to provide additional shallow habitat, deeper marine habitat, shoreline and view protection, air quality protections and recreation opportunities;

** similar to the lakes found in Alternatives 5 through 7, provide a large (approximately 10,000-acre) North Lake, which would be the largest recreational lake in southern California, fed by the Whitewater River to provide recreation and development opportunities without the costs and risks associated with a major mid-sea barrier or the costs of pumping water from the southern end of the sea;

Form #5 (Form5)

Form5-1

As described in Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR, the Preferred Alternative recommended by the Secretary for Resources includes a variety of components that are intended to meet the legislative mandates of providing the maximum feasible attainment of the following objectives:

Restoration of long-term stable aquatic and shoreline habitat for the historic levels and diversity of fish and wildlife that depend on the Salton Sea;

Elimination of air quality impacts from the restoration project; and

Protection of water quality.

Specifically, the Preferred Alternative includes 62,000 acres of Saline Habitat Complex, a 45,000-acre Marine Sea, incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project, and includes other measures and design considerations that would work to protect water quality. Under the Preferred Alternative, Air Quality Management and the Saline Habitat Complex would have the highest priority for inflows, followed by inflows into the Marine Sea.

The 62,000-acre Saline Habitat Complex included in the Preferred Alternative would be located in the southern and northern portion of the Salton Sea and would provide habitat for a variety of avian species such as shorebirds, waterfowl, and potentially for fish-eating birds, including sensitive species currently found at the Salton Sea. It is expected that the Saline Habitat Complex would also provide limited habitat for some fish species, such as tilapia, and thus, provide foraging habitat for fish-eating birds. The Saline Habitat Complex is expected to provide the microclimate benefits that currently exist at the Salton Sea, and could be constructed using a variety of construction methods including Geotubes®.

The 45,000-acre Marine Sea included in the Preferred Alternative would be located primarily in the northern portion of the Sea, but would extend down the majority of the eastern and western shorelines. It is intended to support a marine fishery and fish-eating birds (such as pelicans, double-crested cormorants, and black skimmers). The Marine Sea would stabilize at a water surface elevation of -230 feet msl with a salinity between 30,000 mg/L and 40,000 mg/L. The water depth would be less than 10 to 12 meters (39 feet) to reduce hydrogen sulfide generation and potential fish kills due to long-term temperature stratification (temperature variations from top to bottom of the sea).

** as described in Alternatives 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 and 8, provide at least one-half acre-foot of water per acre of exposed seabed to prevent dust pollution; and

** as described in all of the proposed alternatives, construct shallow saline habitat (known as "early start habitat") immediately to provide resources for birds during the long permitting and construction process.

A final preferred alternative that includes all of these components, each of which is present and analyzed in one or more of the draft alternatives, would best meet the legal requirements to maximize habitat, air quality and water quality, while also providing substantial recreation and development opportunities.

Form5-1 cont.

Form5 (cont.)

The Preferred Alternative incorporates the air quality “tool box” measures to eliminate, to the extent feasible, air quality impacts from the restoration project. These measures include the allocation of 0.5 acre-foot per acre of water to manage emissive areas of the Exposed Playa. The Preferred Alternative also includes actions and mitigation measures to reduce air quality impacts that could result from construction and operations and maintenance activities.

Although not a legislatively mandated objective, the Saline Habitat Complex is expected to allow for passive recreational opportunities, such as bird watching. Additionally, the Marine Sea would provide for water-based recreational opportunities that have historically occurred at the Salton Sea. This would include boating and fishing opportunities and allow for the ongoing operation of the majority of the existing harbors at the Salton Sea.

The Preferred Alternative also includes a variety of actions that could be implemented within the 5-year timeframe after the Legislature provides direction on implementation of a restoration program and identifies a future implementing agency. These actions include activities such as Early Start Habitat and measures targeted to address air quality uncertainties.

The Preferred Alternative includes many of the components suggested by the commenter. See Chapter 3 of this Final PEIR for a more detailed description of the Preferred Alternative.